FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 JULY 1986

Kuwait

Amir Jabir al-Ahmad announced the dissolution of the National Assembly in a decree broadcast by Kuwait radio 3 July, stating that he and his government will henceforth assume the powers of parliament and legislate by issuing decrees and orders. He affirmed that parliamentary life cannot continue under current circumstances of "division" and "danger," in which the emergence of blocs and parties has shattered national unity and prevented the cabinet from continuing its duties. These internal divisions have emerged at a time when the country is in the throes of an economic crisis, faces "fierce external plots," and is threatened by the proximity of the Iran-Iraq war. The amir also explained his decision in a speech to the nation broadcast by the radio the same day, deploring the "arguments and rancor" between government and parliament and criticizing the latter's failure to realize that terrorism will thrive unless everyone stands together against it. He warned that the cohesiveness of Kuwaiti society has been disintegrating, with the creation of "unnecessary animosities" and the growth of sectarianism. As for the future of the parliamentary system, which he viewed as a modern means toward the attainment of the Koranic concept of "shura," the amir emphasized that he does not intend to abandon the "parliamentary march."

In other decrees broadcast by Kuwait radio, the amir accepted the government's resignation but reappointed Crown Prince Sa'd al-'Abdallah as prime minister, tasking him with the formation of a new cabinet. Another decree gave the government powers to suspend newspapers which serve foreign interests or publish material that contradicts "the national interest." In a related development, KUNA carried a decree by the information minister announcing the imposition of censorship on all periodicals as of 3 July.

The amir's decision to dissolve the National Assembly and suspend some articles of the Constitution was welcomed in Kuwaiti press editorials cited by KUNA, which noted favorable comment by *Al-Anba', Al-Ra'y al-'Amm, Al-Siyasah*, and the *Kuwait Times. Meanwhile, the UAE's Al-Ittihad predicted that* the amir will appoint a consultative council to assist the next government and will establish a grievances committee to hear citizens' complaints.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq remains in "absolute control" of the Mehran operational sector, according to a senior Iraqi commander cited by INA 6 July. The commander said Iraqi forces are now stationed on hills overlooking Mehran, the same positions they occupied before taking the city. Rebutting Iran's "lies" about Mehran battle successes, another Iraqi commander said Iran has suffered unprecedented losses in the recent fighting, INA reported. In activity that day, a military communique cited by IRNA stated that Iranian aircraft bombed Iraqi troops west of Mehran. For its part, Iraq announced air strikes against three maritime targets, according to military statements rported by INA.

In 5 July fighting, Iraqi aircraft destroyed 60 Iranian vehicles, according to a communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio, while Tehran radio announced that 700 Iraqi casualties were incurred during the "liberation" of two more "sensitive" heights in the area. A military communique carried by IRNA 5 July claimed that Iraqi casualties in the Mehran offensive had risen to 6,800. Tehran radio stated earlier that 800 Iraqis were killed as Iranian forces destroyed an Iraqi presidential brigade 4 July. As for air activity, a military communique cited by IRNA stated that an Iraqi aircraft was downed by an Iranian air-to-air missile 4 July, while another Iraqi warplane was downed by antiaircraft fire. For its part, Iraq announced in a military communique cited by Voice of the Masses that its warplanes destroyed 250 Iranian vehicles and three helicopters. Also on 4 July, Iranian naval forces hit an Iraqi ammunition ship in Khawr 'Abdallah, according to a military communique cited by IRNA, which also noted that the Iranian Navy shelled Iraqi oil installations at Al-Bakr. Meanwhile, an Iraqi spokesman denied Iranian claims about the 3 July capture of three Iraqi ships in Khawr 'Abdallah, telling INA that no such "battle" occurred.

Commenting on the fall of Mehran, the Iranian Majlis speaker in remarks reported by Tehran radio speculated that Kuwait's "political eclipse" will be seen as a result of the battle, while senior Iranian commanders cited by IRNA said the recent operations were a prelude to further large-scale Iranian offensives.

Lebanon

The arrival of Syrian special forces in West Beirut over the weekend has raised the number of Syrian troops in the area to about 3,000, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that this number is expected to rise to 5,000 by the end of the month. The radio cited Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's statement that the West Beirut security plan must be tested for 2 weeks and that Syria will send additional forces if necessary. The Syrians have deployed around the Palestinian camps, the radio disclosed, and they have also established roadblocks in the Khaldah area to prevent forces loyal to Yasir 'Arafat from infiltrating the capital along the coastal road.

Reacting to Syria's new role in the West Beirut security plan, "official sources" cited by the Voice of Lebanon stressed that the Syrian forces entered West Beirut without any decision or request by the Lebanese Government or the Supreme Defense Council. On the other hand, Prime Minister Rashid Karami praised the Syrian role in remarks reported by Beirut radio, viewing the Syrian presence in Beirut as in Lebanon's interest. For Syria's part, the chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon told *Al-Safir that he brought "some security men" into Beirut in* order to assist the Lebanese troops and security forces in their attempt to impose "authoritative security," according to the radio. In Israel, the IDF spokesman described the introduction of Syrian troops into Beirut as a "change in the status quo," adding that the IDF is closely monitoring the situation, *The Jerusalem Post* reported.

Israel

Israel and U.S. representatives have discussed Syria's responsibility for the recent attempt to sabotage an El Al plane in Madrid, Jerusalem radio disclosed, adding that the Americans asked Israel to show restraint on the matter. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated earlier that the terrorist responsible for the bomb attempt received his instructions from Damascus, according to the radio. Meanwhile, Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev confirmed reports that an IDF major is being tried in camera on charges of spying for Syria, the radio noted.

Jordan

King Husayn commented on the unrest at Al-Yarmuk University in a letter to the prime minister broadcast by Amman television 5 July, blaming "a handful of students who deviated from educational objectives" for inciting the "regrettable incidents" 13-14 May in which three students died. Nevertheless, the king added that investigations into the Al-Yarmuk incidents have convinced him of the need to "correct a number of issues" in higher education and to "fill the gaps" in the system, adding that the government has an urgent responsibility to define and fill these gaps as soon as possible.

Yemen

In an interview with Kuwait's *Al-Anba'* cited by WAKH, PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas denied reports that efforts are under way to reconcile differences between the current PDRY leadership and former Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, disclosing that a number of people will be tried shortly for their role in the incidents last January. As for PDRY-YAR relations, a Libyan-PDRY joint communique broadcast by Tripoli radio following Al-'Attas' 2-4 July visit to Libya asserted that the summit meeting under Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's auspices achieved "positive results" that will consolidate the Yemeni people's security and stability, which is an essential condition for the realization of Yemeni unity.

In contrast, the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* claimed in its weekly edition that the Yemeni summit meeting in Libya failed to yield significant results regarding national reconcilation, Yemeni unity, and the PDRY's internal problems, according to WAM.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi met with Libyan Armed Forces officers in Tripoli 5 July, JANA reported, noting that the officers gave Al-Qadhdhafi a "pledge" never to forget the U.S. attack against him until it is avenged.

Iran

Economic Ties With Syria — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi met with a visiting Syrian economic delegation comprising the ministers of industry, economy and foreign trade, and oil and mineral wealth, Tehran radio reported 6 July. One of the Syrian officials told Musavi that their talks in Tehran will have a positive impact on bilateral relations and will reduce the effect of "conspiracies" hatched by the common enemies of both countries. Reporting on an earlier meeting between the Syrian and Iranian oil ministers, IRNA said the two sides agreed to allow a joint commission to review bilateral oil agreements, adding that they also expressed hope that Iranian-Syrian political and economic relations will continue to expand.

Rajavi-'Arafat Talks — Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq, met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Baghdad 3 July, according to a Mojahedin communique cited by ANSA. The two sides condemned Iran's continuation of the war against Iraq, repression inside Iran, and "plots" against the PLO in Lebanon.

Saudi Arabia

Fahd on Egypt — King Fahd stressed Saudi Arabia's "amity, appreciation, and respect" for Egypt during an *Al-Ahram* interview carried by MENA, stressing that "we have never been far from Egypt and its people." The king praised President Husni Mubarak's efforts to promote Egypt's progress and prosperity and his "steady steps to enable Egypt to perform its natural and leading role" in Arab, Islamic, and international issues.

Iran on Student Searches — Tehran radio's Turkish service claimed that students at King Sa'ud University in Riyadh were recently searched by security forces looking for the distributors of leaflets concerning the plight of over 100 political prisoners.

Maghreb

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has been ordered to rest completely for 2 weeks, according to a 5 July Presidential Palace statement cited by Algiers radio. The radio added that President Bendjedid is suffering from sciatica brought about by a slipped disc.

Morocco's King Hassan II will undertake a new U.S.-Libyan mediation effort during his upcoming visit to Washington, according to an Abu Dhabi *Al-Ittihad* report cited by WAM.

DRA

Herat Fighting — Karachi radio cited reports that current "fierce fighting" in Herat Province has caused over 500 casualties among Soviet-DRA troops. Kabul radio accused rebels of blowing up a mosque in the area.

Defector — The DRA diplomat who disappeared in Pakistan 25 June defected and left for "a European capital," the Pakistani Foreign Ministry asserted in a statement reported by AFP. The DRA had accused the CIA of kidnapping the diplomat.

Pakistan

People's Party leader Benazir Bhutto accused Pakistani Government agencies of provoking her party to armed violence, according to AFP, which said that Bhutto's 5 July nationwide "Black Day" protest marking the anniversary of the coup that brought General Ziaul Haq to power in 1977 proceeded largely peacefully.

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Iranian Resistance Leader, 'Arafat Meet
AU041518 Rome ANSA in English 1034 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, July 4 — The Iranian resistance leader Mas'ud Rajavi and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat met in Baghdad Thursday for their first talks in six years, according to a communique from the Iranian People's Mojahedin here. The statement said they discussed the Middle Eastern situation, the Iran-Iraq war, and the situation of the Palestinian and Iranian resistance movements. They also condemned Iran's continuation of the war with Iraq, the Khomeyni regime's domestic repression, and the "plots" against the PLO in Lebanon.

The National Council of the Iranian resistance against the Khomeyni regime was recently transferred to Baghdad.

Moroccan King To Mediate Between U.S., Libya
GF061832 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1720 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Jul (WAM) — *Al-Ittihad* newspaper today stated that during his upcoming visit to Washington, King Hassan II of Morocco will make a new mediation effort between Libya and the United States. The paper said that this mediation effort is a continuation of a previous one which has failed because of Washington's dangerous escalations against Libya. Sources in Rabat have affirmed to the newspaper that U.S. Administration circles have expressed readiness to contain the repercussions of the crisis between the United States and Libya through the Moroccan efforts, although Washington was strongly critical of the (Wajdah) treaty between Libya and Morocco and called Libya at the time the annoying ally of Morocco.

Morocco has rejected all U.S. pressures to make it abandon the unity plan, which caused a slack situation in Moroccan-U.S. relations.

El Al Counter Bombed on 'Behalf' of Fatah Dissidents
LD041905 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The two men arrested in connection with the explosion of a bomb at the Israeli airline El Al's check-in area in Barajas Airport have today been testifying in the number two trial court at Madrid's national high court. The Palestinian, Nasir al-Hassan 'Ali, has admitted preparing the attack on behalf of a Fatah dissident group. For his part the Spaniard, Manuel Isaias Jalafe, says that he knew nothing about the bomb in the suitcase given to him by Al-Hassan. After both men had testified, the judge remanded them in custody.

Fatah's 'Atallah Cited on Differences Within PLO
JN051643 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] In Amman, Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], who opposes Yasir 'Arafat's policy and leads what he calls a corrective movement inside the Fatah movement, held a press conference in which he said an open conflict took place between Yasir 'Arafat and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] during the Fatah Revolutionary Council meeting in Tunis on 19 June. According to Abu al-Za'im, the council denounced Jordan's policy toward the Palestinians and called on the Arab League and the United Nations to put an end to this policy.

Abu al-Za'im pointed out that 'Arafat has sent his political adviser, Hani al-Hasan, to Cairo in an attempt to reactivate Egyptian mediation between Jordan and the PLO. According to Abu al-Za'im, there are contradictions which are the result of sharp differences in viewpoints between Yasir 'Arafat and his military assistant Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] on the one hand, and Abu Iyad and Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department, on the other. The differences revolve around 'Arafat's role in the Palestinian leadership and the principle of a collective leadership for the PLO.

PLO's Khalaf Denies Differences
GF070846 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Jul (QNA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad] has denied the existence of differences among members of the Palestinian leadership. He thus denied the statement made the day before yesterday by Colonel 'Atallah 'Atallah on the existence of differences with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat over relations with Jordan.

In a statement in the UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad* published today, Abu Iyad declared the PLO's rejection of the restoration of the Jordanian administration in the occupied West Bank. He said that the PLO agrees with President Mubarak in his rejection of the restoration of Egyptian administration in the Gaza Strip. Abu Iyad reiterated that the PLO's demand has always been for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on any part of the Palestinian soil since this is the just and the comprehensive solution of the Palestinian people's issue. It is noteworthy to mention that Colonel 'Atallah 'Atallah stated earlier that differences emerged between 'Arafat and Khalaf during the Fatah Revolutionary Council sessions that were held recently in Tunis.

'Arafat Meets Palestinian Union Members in Baghdad
JN051833 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Excerpt] This evening brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with the brother members of the administrative committees of the Palestinian popular trade unions at the PLO office in Baghdad, in fraternal Iraq. During the meeting, brother leader Abu 'Ammar reviewed the developments of the situation in the Palestinian arena and the issue of Palestinian dialogue in light of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's initiative. In this regard, brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that Damascus is still determined to foil any efforts to restore the return of Palestinian factions to the PLO to bolster Palestinian national unity. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar stressed that the Palestinian struggle will not stop and that it is progressing to achieve the great national obejctives.

KUWAIT

Amir Issues Decrees; Assembly Dissolved; Press Reacts

Heir Apparent Appointed Council Head

LD031836 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1713 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Decree by the amir of Kuwait issued on 3 July at Al-Sayf Palace — read by announcer]

[Text] Referring to Item 56 of the Constitution and our decree issued on 27 Shawwal 1406 AH, corresponding to 3 July 1986, on accepting the resignation of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, we have ordered the following:

1. Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim Al Sabah, the heir apparent, is appointed chairman of the Council of Ministers, and he is delegated to nominate the members of the new cabinet and submit their names to us in order to issue the decree on their appointment.
2. The chairman of the Council of Ministers is to implement this order, to be effective as of the date of its issue and published in the official journal.

Signed, the amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad. Issued at Al-Sayf Palace on 27 Shawwal 1406 AH, corresponding to 3 July 1986.

Ministers' Resignations Accepted

LD031925 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Decree issued by the Amir of Kuwait on 3 July at Al-Sayf Palace — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Here is an amiri decree accepting the prime minister's resignation.

Referring to the Articles 56, 103, and 129 of the Constitution and to our decree issued on 4 Jumada al-Akhira, 1405 H, corresponding to 24 February 1985, appointing Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah as prime minister, and the decree issued on 11 Jumada al-Akhira 1405 H, corresponding to 3 March 1985, forming the present cabinet, to the decrees amending it and to the letter of resignation presented to us by Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah, the prime minister, on 27 Shawwal 1406 H, corresponding to 3 July 1986, we have ordered the following:

Article 1: The resignation of Sa'd al-Abdullah al-Salim Al Sabah, prime minister, and the ministers is accepted, and each of them will continue to execute the urgent matters of his post until the formation of the new cabinet.
Article 2: This decree will be effective from the date of its issuance and will be published in the official gazette.

The amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad, issued at Al-Sayf Palace on 27 Shawwal 1406 H, corresponding to 3 July 1986.

National Assembly Dissolved

LD031837 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1713 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. An amiri decree dissolving the National Assembly:

It has been the will of God the Almighty that we shoulder the responsibility for this dear homeland. We have pledged to God and the citizens that we will work to spare Kuwait every evil. The country has faced many ordeals and harsh conditions that it has never experienced all at once before. Thus, its security was exposed to fierce external plots, which threatened souls and almost destroyed the resources of this nation and the source of its livelihood. The flames of the war raging between its two Muslim neighbors have almost reached its borders and it has faced a strong economic crisis. Instead of pooling efforts and all parties cooperating in order to contain these crises, opinions were divided, and blocs and parties emerged which have led to the shattering of national unity and the interruption of work until the Council of Ministers has become unable to continue its task.

Since only a decisive and serious action can save the country from the economic crisis through which the country is passing; since the criminal plots to which the homeland is being exposed can be halted only by total alertness and complete readiness, and comprehensive national unity; since the conditions in the region are critical and surrounded by a delicate and dangerous environment; since the continuation of the situation as it is will expose Kuwait to unfavorable results which we have feared and do fear; and since freedom and consultation (as Shura) are original seedlings that have grown and prospered since the creation of Kuwait, Kuwait being the origin, the objective, and the remaining one; anything else being transient and changeable according to its need and interests, the continuation of parliamentary life in this spirit and in these circumstances exposes national unity to a certain division and poses an unexpected danger to the supreme interests of the country. Therefore, we saw out of eagerness for the safety and stability of Kuwait, to halt the actions of the National Assembly and we have issued the following decree in this matter:

Article I: The National Assembly shall be dissolved and will halt its work in accordance with Articles 56, Paragraph 3, 107, 174, and 181 of the Constitution issued on 11 November 1962.
Article II: The amir and the Council of Ministers take charge of the specialities vested in the National Assembly in accordance with the Constitution.
Article III: Laws will be issued by way of amiri decrees, and it is permissible when necessary to issue them by way of amiri orders.
Article IV: The prime minister and the ministers, each one in his field, shall implement this decree and it shall become effective from the date of issue, and it shall be published in the official gazette.

Amir of Kuwait
Jabir al-Ahmad
Issued at Al-Sayf Palace 3 July 1986

Amiri Decree on Publication Law

LD031934 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1713 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Decree by the Amir of Kuwait, issued on 3 July, on Law No 73 of 1986 regarding the amendment of some articles of the Publication Law, issued under Law No 3 of 1961 — read by announcer]

[Text] Article I: The text of Article 35 of Law No 3 of 1961 is to be substituted by the following:

It will permitted by a decree from the Council of Ministers to suspend the publication of a paper for a duration not exceeding 2 years, or to cancel its licence if it transpires that it is serving the interests of a foreign state of body; if what it is publishing contradicts the national interest; or if it is proven that it has obtained from any other state, party aid, assistance, or benefit in any form, and for any reason, without permission from the Ministry of Information.

The minister of information may, when necessary, suspend the publication of a paper for a period not exceeding 3 months.

Article II: The following articles will be added to Law No 3 of 1961 on the Publications and Publishing Law:

Article 4. No printing workshop is permitted to publish publications without prior permission from the Ministry of Information, except for periodicals and government publications and those of a commerical nature.

Article 27. The publication of any noncommercial advertisement or statement issued by a body, group or a group of people, or any foreign state or body, is banned without prior agreement of the Ministry of Information.

Article 35. The minister of information may submit published periodicals to censors before distribution. The publication of whatever is ordered to be banned by the censors is prohibited.

Article 35A. Anyone who violates the rulings of Articles 4, 27, 35 will be punished by imprisonment for not less than 1 year and not more than 3 years, and a fine of not less than 3,000 dinars and not more than 5,000 dinars, or 1 of these 2 punishments. The censor authority may order the seizure of any issued publications without licence.

Article 35B. Ministry of Information inspectors have the authority to enter printing, publishing and newspaper buildings, and venues for selling publications to monitor the implementation of this law and to seize whatever falls within the violation of its rulings.

Article III. Article 32 is canceled.

Article IV. The chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Ministers, each in his capacity, are to implement this law which will be effective as of the date of its publication in the official journal.

[Signed] The amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad.
[Issued] Al-Sayf Palace, 3 July 1986

Information Minister Decree Issued

LD032119 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2037 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Jul (KUNA) — Information Minister Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad tonight issued a decree subjecting all periodicals to censorship.

Here follows the text of the decree:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.
Ministry of Information.
Decree of the Minister of Information, No 3, year 1961.

The minister of information, after having reviewed the Publications and Publishing Law No 3 for the year 1961, amended by an amiri decree by Law No 73 for the year 1986, and in accordance with the general public interest has decided:

Article 1 — All periodicals will be subjected to censorship.
Article 2 — All bodies of the ministry should carry out this decision, and it should be put into practice from today on.
Article 3 — This decision is to be published in the *Official Gazette*.

[Signed] Minister of Information, Kuwait.
[Dated] 3 July 1986

Amir's 3 July Address to Nation

GF051857 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 4 Jul 86 p 1

["Text" of 3 July address to nation by Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al Sabah; place not given]

[Text] Praise and thanks be to God, and prayers and peace be upon His messenger. My brothers: In people's lives there are days when they are at the crossroads of their historical march and they must make an overall reassessment of the relations between principles and practices, and between the supreme objectives of the homeland and partial [peripheral] behavior which soaks up efforts, disperses perception, and divides the world. I believe that we now are living a day such as this. As for the principles, we have all put our faith in consultation [shura], which was passed on to us from the book of our God, when he said: Their affairs to be counselled among themselves [Koranic verse] and his word: You have consulted on the affair. We practiced this consultation at the levels of the family, neighbors, and relatives, and the homeland.

Our administration is a miniature form of the freedom of expression and dialogue dominated by the spirit of amity and open heart and door. This popular practice and the wish to develop it to a modern form were the main impetus for adopting our parliamentary system. Every system must be judged on the basis of the benefits it achieves for the homeland. The form of a system is not an objective in itself, but it is a means accepted by society to maintain its strength of character, open up to its surroundings, and build its future. It was hoped that dialogue between the executive and legislative authorities would continue to bear the spirit of amity and fraternity in the good environment in which they grew in and from whose roots they rose, especially as there are basic issues, headed by the security and economic situations, which have slid down to a level that cannot be ignored.

I waited for a long time in the hope that the two authorities would be able to reach constructive understanding and dialogue to resolve these issues. The dialogue, however, changed into arguments and rancor, and the articles of the laws and bills became a weapons exchange instead of being cooperating arms. The dust of disputes obscured the rays of truth. General issues were mixed with personal issues and debate became settlements of old scores or plans for new perceptions, and embodiment of stands at which propagand was intended to mean science and wounding to mean correcting.

We were not content with Kuwait's internal problems, which on their own are capable enough of exhausting all efforts, but we have entered into external battles which are not compulsory for us. Through them we have created unnecessary animosities, and some of us have begun to say whatever he wants to whomever he wants [ma sha's li man sha'], forgetting or pretending to forget the size, capabilities, heritage and interests of Kuwait. Do we need all these open fronts? Do not our problems have a priority in our attention and our citizens have a priority in these efforts? I have seen the picture of democracy shaking, and its practice slipping away, taking with it social and moral norms, and the cohesiveness inherent in the Kuwaiti society disintegrate with it, responsibility has come into disarray and has been wiped out, and the citizens do not know any more who is responsible for the events that are taking place.

I have drawn attention more than once to the fact that the situation is acute and the episode of terrorism which was aimed and still is aimed at Kuwait will continue as long as everyone does not cooperate at these particular moments by standing in face of all those who want to harm the country. But, unfortunately, brother members did not sense the danger in the situation as I see it from a vantage point of responsibility. Brothers, there are limits that should be adhered to so that it can be possible to combine a position of responsibility with the trust entailed by such a position of responsibility.

Brothers, real democracy stems from the principles of consultation [al-shurah]. It is a dialogue with an aim, wise cooperation, understanding, and decision. Democracy is self-denial and correction. In our opinion, democracy is that Kuwait should exist, first of all, and we are all at its service, protecting it with our bodies and souls. Democracy is that we should be Kuwait's beating heart, its thinking brain, its pure hand, and its independent determination. I am confident that what is happening in our country is a continuation of one or more plans which come from intruding destructive centers, and people knowingly or unknowingly have joined them.

Look what has happened to the others. Look how dissensions were able to blow up countries which were secure and calm, and which used to get abundant sustenance from every source. This is what they have tried to execute by breaking up the Kuwaiti rank. They have pushed freedom away until it has become chaos. They have turned nationalism into sectarianism. They have shaken the trust which has been the hallmark of our society so that it has become doubt among the sons of the same country. Since when has there been any discrimination between one sect and another? We are all the sons of Kuwait. It is the mother and the father. We are the shield which defends it against its enemies. Probably the biggest cause for this overt and continuous plot is that Kuwait will not kneel to any corner, group, or country. As it has and always will, God willing, it stems from the interests of the Kuwaiti people and is reinforced by its will.

A wise man is the one who learns lessons from others and from his past, who rises above the accounts of the past and personal aspirations, who thinks of the hope and future of the country and believes that the right of Kuwait has priority over his aims.

We do not isolate ourselves from what is happening around us, but we protect our homeland from all dangers and build the edifice of Kuwait on an immovable rock and solid foundations.

Brothers, in some situations the official finds himself before a difficult and forceful decision. If the matter is aggravated, he can only take it because of his responsibility before God — who is aware of what is in the souls — and before the people who showed him trust. Storms do not know mercy and the waves know no friend. Therefore, it was incumbent on me, in redemption of the trust I bear from and driven by the responsibility toward this good country and generous people, to issue an amiri decree dissolving the National Assembly and suspending some articles of the Constitution. After we have seen what will threaten our homeland and dear people in the event of conditions remaining as they are.

We shall not, with God's assistance and guidance, abandon our parliamentary march in which we believed, a matter which ensures the preservation of Kuwait and its people, deepens the sentiments of love and sacrifice for this dear homeland, and preserves its authenticity and unity from any internal divisions or conflicts so that it may be a strong dam in the face of the plots which want to harm its firmness. Kuwait and its Arab people shall remain a support for its Arab nation and its fateful causes, and a succor for its Islamic nation and tolerent shari'ah, and to every sincere and honest person on its soil.

I beseech God the Almighty to help us and guide us to what is good for our people and the safety of our country. God is all-hearing and he responds to pleas. May God protect Kuwait and its people from every evil and may God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

'Consultative Council' Considered

GF051202 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 5 Jul 86 p 1

[Muhammad al-Burjus report from Kuwait]

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned that there is a tendency toward setting up a consultative council in Kuwait, whose task will be to assist the new Kuwaiti Government in formulating views that can help it in making important decisions, and that Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, Kuwaiti heir apparent, will complete his consultations in 2 days, and his new cabinet will be expanded. Political sources have told *Al-Ittihad* that the consultative council may be called "the senate" or the "council of elders", and will include an elite whose views are respected and who will be appointed by the amir.

Al-Ittihad has learned that there is an inclination to set up a grievances committee to look into citizens' complaints. The first task of the new government will be to adopt a series of economic measures, foremost among which will be ending the Al-Manakh stock market problem and its ramifications.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister designate, is expected to begin his consultations today on forming the new government. He is scheduled to meet with the amir of Kuwait today. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, deputy prime minister and foreign minister in the outgoing government, may join the meeting.

Political sources have stated to *Al-Ittihad* that the number of members of the new government will exceed that of the outgoing government, and that articles of the constitution which state that one-third of government members must be members of the National Assembly will be amended. The sources said that 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, the amir's adviser and a former finance minister, will be a member of the new government. It is also reported that at least three members of the outgoing government will be excluded from the new government. They are: Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khalid al-Jasir, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Khalid al-Jumay'an, and Education Minister Hasan al-Ibrahim. It is also expected that the Ministry of Trade will be separated from the Ministry of Finance. The sources predict that decrees on the formation of the new government will be issued in the middle of the current week.

Decision in 'National Interests'

GF061118 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 5 Jul 86 p 6

["Opinion" column by the *Arab Times*: "A Decision Prompted by National Interests"]

[Text] What has happened could not have occurred if there had been cooperation between the government and Assembly. We say this with full confidence because we know the love for the constitutional life and the shura [consultation], which are the bases for one family.

We also know that what happened would not have occurred if the practice of democracy and constitutional rights had not reached the limits.

A small country such as ours, and a Third World society such as ours, cannot carry on its political life without considering the special circumstances. We cannot be democratic or liberal by imitating others.

Under the umbrella of constitutional life, we cannot make this Kuwaiti life a wall on which we write words which are not suitable for Kuwait and deal with questions which are not ours. By doing this we bring fires to our area, especially when we consider the struggle against the government not only a democratic one to achieve national interests, but a struggle accompanied by accusations and claims that the government was an obstruction on the road to political practices.

The issues became confused in our country, and some groups, which could not be endured by the circumstances in Kuwait, appeared.

Political officials were paralysed and deputies left their legislative work to interfere in the responsibilities of others. Belonging to regional currents became a condition of national work. When such political confusion appears in a society such as Kuwait, which has people of hundreds of different nationalities, receives all kinds of currents, and is surrounded by difficult regional circumstances, then political activities will touch the prohibited red line.

In this situation the first official in this country should undertake his responsibilities and take difficult decisions, depending on the authority invested in him by the constitution. It is important to recall that HH the amir called on the Assembly and government to cooperate and focus on what benefitted the country and people, during his last meeting with the speaker of the dissolved Assembly, Ahmad al-Sa'dun. He also warned not to oblige him to take decisions, which he hated, in the end. But it seems that insisting on continuing on the same path was a planned move. This was pointed out by the amir when he called it a "plan" and "plot", as if Kuwait was a big power and did not have internal conditions and surrounding circumstances that make it a field for disliked reactions.

The insistence on the "planned policy" was what forced the amir to take the difficult decision which he did not like, and make a decision he hated in order to protect Kuwait and preserve it as an independent and stable country.

The most dangerous result of the recent political confusion is the class conflict that is strange in Kuwait society and has no relation with it. In addition, this small country has succeeded in containing hundreds of nationalities, and so it does not want anyone to cause the failure of this success.

The amir was obliged to do what he was reluctant to do. Kuwait came first and last, as he said in his historic speech. We are Kuwaitis, Arabs and Muslims, and Kuwait is an Arab and Muslim country. So let us focus seriously on our causes, in order to deal with them and serve our national interests.

The difficult decision was not taken until all warnings had been exhausted. We do not forget that this difficult decision is in the end a national decision taken in favour of the national interests.

4 Jul Papers Support Decision

LD040913 Kuwait KUNA in English 0824 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Kuwait, July 4 (KUNA) — Two Kuwaiti newspapers Friday expressed support to his highness the amir's order to dissolve the National Assembly, underlining that democracy will prevail in the country as the amir stated in his address to the nation last night.

The stability and the democratic system in Kuwait have been targeted, and those who attempted to destabilize its security through threats and explosions were aiming at creating an unfamiliar pattern of dialogue among us, commented *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* newspaper. The paper said democracy in Kuwait has gone through glorious periods and the experiment should have been implanted and enhanced by constructive dialogue and responsible practice.

"But the performance did not preserve that spirit...leading us to the verge of separation and collapse."

Shouldering his responsibility as the leader of this nation, the amir had to intervene and to correct the shaky image and deteriorating practice of democracy, *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* said. At the same time, the amir pointed out in his speech that we will not abandon our democratic march because democracy springs from the vivid heart of Kuwait and its thinking mind, and its independent will. "This gives us no reason to worry about the future of Kuwait and its people," the paper concluded.

Al-Siyasah newspaper said the amir took action without denying the country its democracy. "He called on us to adhere to our fundamental principles and values to avoid social strife," the paper added. "We do not want our country to be destroyed...and we will not allow its future to be decided arbitrarily," *Al-Siyasah* maintained. It said our decisions, will and security stem from Kuwait and for Kuwait, and what we allow ourselves to do is exactly what others allow themselves to do.." [closing quotation mark as received]

Addressing his highness the amir, *Al-Siyasah* said "we are your people in peace and in war, and there is no one among us who will be led astray away from unity."

5 Jul Papers Comment on Decisions

LD051040 Kuwait KUNA in English 0926 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Kuwait, July 5 (KUNA) — Four Kuwaiti dailies Saturday commented on the amiri decision to dissolve the Kuwaiti National Assembly and the suspension of some articles of the Constitution, saying, the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad's difficult decision was for the benefit of Kuwait.

Daily *Al-Anba'* said that the amir tried to match the opinions of both the government and the National Assembly in the interest of Kuwait "but was unlucky in his attempts, therefore he took his difficult decision" to dissolve the Assembly.

It added that "the difficult decision was not easy" on Shaykh Jabir because "he is one of the believers in democracy" and is keen to protect it "in spite of all the difficulties which the parliamentary expereince has witnessed". "Jabir took the decision to dissolve the National Assembly because, as a responsible person, he saw from his point of view our beloved Kuwait is being torn apart...", the paper said.

It noted that Kuwait is now before problems and challenges which need urgent decisions to solve its pressing crisis. The paper asserted that the "quick restoration of Kuwait's vitality, power and democracy depends on the government's immediate implementation of a integrative policy to solve all the problems".

Meanwhile, daily *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* said Shaykh Jabir's decision to dissolve the National Assembly "is an honest attempt to protect the country from many dangers threatening it and a right action that aims at strengthening our internal front...." The paper said the recent development in Kuwait "is ordinary and is expected and comes within the nature of our democratic system", noting that these developments "will boost our democratic experience." The newspaper added "...the aim is that Kuwait remains an ideal of freedom of opinion and dialogue and a good environment that spreads love and fraternity and boosts the basis of consultations and democratic system." The daily affirmed that Kuwait remains "the place of real democracy", noting that Kuwait is known for "its good reputation and political balances and its effective presence in defending the freedom and just causes."

Daily *Al-Siyasah* said the dissolution of the National Assembly "could not have happened if there had been cooperation between the government and the Assembly". "The amir was obliged to do what he was reluctant to do", the paper said, adding that "Kuwait is an Arab and Muslim country, so let us focus seriously on our causes in order to deal with them and serve our national interests." "The difficult decision was not taken until all warnings had been exhausted", the daily said, noting that "this difficult decision is in the end a national decision, taken in favour of the national interests."

English-language daily *Kuwait Times* pointed out that the amir's decision to dissolve the National Assembly "bears profound meanings". "As a milestone on the path of Kuwait's political progress and maturity, it should be carefully seen for what it is and also for what it is not," the paper said.

It described the National Assembly's dissolution as "a rescue operation", noting that "it is by no means a renunciation of the democratic and constitutional progress."

The paper stressed that "Kuwait is not changing its course, only correcting it." The newspaper said that the Kuwaiti people should put in mind that "mistakes committed in the past shall not be repeated when we resume the march toward our goal."

PDRY

Al-'Attas Returns From Libya, Makes Statement

GF051030 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and his accompanying delegation returned to Aden yesterday after concluding an official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Upon arrival he was received at Aden international airport by Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, in addition to members of the Political Bureau and of the Central Committee, and ministers.

Upon arrival Brother al-'Attas made a press statement. He said: As I return to the homeland, I am pleased to express satisfaction with the results of my visit to Syria and Libya and with the meetings and discussions with Brother Hafiz al-Asad, the secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic; and with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the glorious 1 September Revolution, which will help enhance Yemeni-Syrian-Libyan relations. This will also enhance the pan-Arab and nationalist position of our country and of our Arab countries to confront the imperialist and the Zionist threats whose aggressive nature was demonstrated through the military aggression launched against Libya and through the threats of aggression against Syria. We reviewed the situation in the Middle East. Our views are identical: It is impossible to solve this issue without the full recognition of the rights of the Arab Palestinian people to return home, to determine their future, to establish their national and independent state, and to recover all occupied Arab territories.

My visit to the two fraternal countries represented a lucid expression of the PDRY's pan-Arab position which supports the steadfastness of Syria and stresses solidarity with the Libyan people. It also emphasizes the importance of unifying our Arab rank, its power, and progressive regimes in the confrontation of the various schemes that are designed to harm the sovereignty of our Arab homeland, and the freedom and the progress of our people. From this premise, we stressed the need to intensify the efforts of our countries — in such a way that serves our fateful Arab issues — and to exchange views on various Arab and international developments. We also supported Col al-Qadhdhafi's initiative to establish an Arab union, owing to its importance at this dangerous stage of the struggle of our Arab peoples.

The tripartite Yemeni-Libyan meeting yielded positive results that coincide with the union efforts on the Yemeni and Arab levels. Our meeting with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander of chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland, was fruitful as this was designed to continue our unity efforts in order to reunite our homeland and to promote its role in the Arab region.

I would like to express my confidence that the results of my visits and meetings in Damascus and Tripoli will yield important and positive results with regard to bilateral struggle relations as well as serving the fateful issues of our Arab peoples and issues of common interest.

Al-'Attas: Coup Plotters To Stand Trial 'Shortly'

GF061204 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Jul (WAKH) — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, PDRY chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has denied reports circulated on the existence of efforts to reconcile the differences between the leadership in Aden and former Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He said that the accused in the January incidents will stand trial shortly.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anba'* today he said that the size of the economic losses sustained in the bloody incidents stand at $120 million. This includes buildings, public utilities, and equipment. The Yemeni chairman called on all the accused who live abroad and who left Yemen with the former chairman to return to Aden. He stressed that the accused will be pardoned, except those who directly took part in incidents; they will stand trial because they premeditatedly mapped out the 13 January incidents. He noted that reports claiming that over 27,000 people are being detained are merely propaganda distorting the situation in the PDRY. Stressing that this figure is ridiculous, he said that the authorities had released 2,700 detainees in accordance with the general pardon resolution.

On Aden's relations with Sanaa, he said that relations are very good and that his country is keen not to let the recent incidents disrupt the unity steps which we began together. He emphasized his country's commitment to fully adhere to all the cooperation and coordination agreements signed between the two parts of Yemen so as to reinforce the fraternal Yemeni relations.

New Appointments to Radio, Television, News Agency

EA040925 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Dr Yasin Sa'id Numan, Political Bureau member and Council of Ministers chairman, has issued a decree of the Council of Ministers on the appointment of a head for the Central Statistical Board. The first article of the decree provides for the appointment of Brother Dr Muhammad Muhsin Ali as head of the Central Statistical Board. The remaining articles provide for the revocation of any previous appointment to this post, its enforcement from the date of issue, and its publication in the official gazette.

The brother prime minister also issued four other decrees:

The first article of the first decree provides for the appointment of brother Salim 'Abd al-Malik ibn Humam as deputy head of the Central Statistical Board.

The first article of the second decree provides for the appointment of Brother Ahmad Muhammad al-Hubayshi as director general of the Aden News Agency.

The first article of the third decree provides for the appointment of Brother Muhammad Husayn Muhammad as editor-in-chief of *Uktubar* [14th October] newspaper.

The first article of the fourth decree provides for the appointment of Brother 'Abd al-Rahman Umar 'Abd al-Rahman as director general of radio and television.

The remaining articles provide for the revocation of any previous appointments to these posts, their enforcement from the date of issue, and their publication in the official gazette.

Saddam Husayn Inspects II Army Corps Sector

JN031527 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1510 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jul (INA) — Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, has inspected the II Army Corps sector on the warfront with the Iranian enemy. The president met with a number of field commanders who briefed him on battle developments in this sector and on the Iraqi fighters' high level of readiness to defeat the Iranian offensive.

Reportage on New Iranian War Offensive

Forces Make Tactical Withdrawal

JN031711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jul (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations about a battle in Khawr 'Abdallah in the northeastern Arab Gulf. The spokesman told INA tonight that the Iraqi forces are imposing full control over the northern Arab Gulf and no such battle has taken place in this region as Iran alleges.

On Iranian claims about the results of the Mehran battles, the spokesman said the Iraqi forces consolidated their positions along the international border and the Iranian forces suffered very great losses in this area, adding that the Iraqi forces participating in these battles suffered only very limited losses and chose to withdraw in order to take up better defensive positions. Now the Iraqi forces are stationed in strong positions from a tactical viewpoint, he said.

Spokesman on Mehran Withdrawal

JN042045 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2015 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Hasan al-Kashif report from Baghdad]

[Excerpt] I asked 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, head of political guidance and the Iraqi military spokesman, about the Iraqi withdrawal from Mehran. He said: After bitter fighting, the Iranians managed to gain control of a number of heights east of Mehran. This made the flat land difficult to defend without sustaining grave losses. Thus, our forces made a wise decision to carry out an orderly withdrawal to prepared positions on the border.

Regarding Iranian and Iraqi losses, he said: The Iranians, who attacked with nearly five divisions and a brigade, sustained grave losses. As a result of our forces' quick actions and measures, our losses were very limited. The Iranians lost the opportunity to attack our forces on flat land [words indistinct] in isolating any of our units. Mehran and its basin are still under the control of Iraqi fire.

I asked him about the Iraqi border town, Badrah, which lies near the theater of operations. He said the Iranians did not come any nearer to it than they did before Iraq occupied Mehran. Finally, the Iraqi military spokesman said the mobile defense strategy which Iraq has adopted still stands and will not be abandoned. He said one of the factors of this strategy is to attack and withdraw at the same time.

Communique No 2,279

JN031705 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,279 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 3 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces derive their power and strong will from a country worthy of sacrifices and from people who symbolized manhood and its strength and meaning. Our Armed Forces, inspired by their history and guided by their principles, are fighting in the path of God, raising the banner of truth, defending the proud homes, protecting the nation's honor, and fighting for the sake of the homeland and its people. Our Armed forces will always be victorious and our enemies will always be defeated. They affirm that people are stronger than spiteful tyrants and that the call for freedom and peace is stronger than attempts at domination and more powerful than the calls of sedition, war, and destruction, which are raised by Zionism and its Iranian pawns.

The following is a roundup of operations for last night and today:

1. Our powerful Air Force continued to pour its molten fire on the suspect tyrants to inflict further losses on them. Our daring aircraft today flew 153 combat missions, during which our pilots scored direct hits on enemy supplies, concentrations, and positions, killed a great number of Khomeyniite rascals, and destroyed great quantities of weaponry, vehicles, and equipment. Our daring aircraft also launched a new successful raid against Khark Island facilities at 1320 [0920 GMT] today, hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.

Having carried out their missions with utmost accuracy and impeccability, our pilots returned to their bases with their planes in God's care.

2. Our Army helicopter gunships today carried out their heroic operations to punish the wicked aggressors. Our capable helicopters flew 30 combat missions, during which they wiped out great numbers of enemy men, vehicles, armor, and weaponry. Our men returned to their bases safe and triumphant, protected by God.

3. Our brave units yesterday confronted enemy attempts to advance on our positions in the II Army Corps central sector. The enemy attempt wwas crushed. The enemy suffered more than 400 casualties before one of our units and lost 215 men before another unit. Three enemy tanks and two excavators were destroyed, another excavator and one bulldozer were damaged, five enemy men were killed, and seven others were wounded. One SPG-9 gun, six infantry positions, and one observation post were destroyed elsewhere in the same sector.

4. While carrying out its duties in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, a heroic patrol confronted an enemy group, killing

three men and destroying three Kalashnikov rifles, One Israeli-made 'Uzi rifle, one boat, and a quantity of ammunition. Our patrol returned to base, safe with God's help. The heroic soldiers of the IV Army Corps confronted an enemy group attenpting to advance on our position, killing five and forcing the rest to flee. Our brave units elsewhere in the same sector destroyed six ammunition dumps, two vehicles, and one infantry position whose occupants were killed.

5. Our brave patrols in the V Army Corps northern sector seized one 120-mm mortar, one rifle, one RPG-7 launcher, and a quantity of ammunition which the enemy abandoned in previous battles. Nine enemy men were killed and seven infantry positions were destroyed in the same sector.

6. Our brave units in the VII Army Corps front opened heavy fire on enemy positions opposite them, destroying several infantry positions, setting them ablaze, and also destroying one tubular launcher, two excavators, and one ammunition dump.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 July 1986

Communique No 2,280

JN041713 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,280 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The triumphant Iraqi Army, which is recording epics of heroism in all areas of combat and which is inflicting the gravest losses and destruction on the wicked aggressors, is representing the unbeatable will of the Iraqi people, who want to preserve their territory, adhere to their sovereignty and independent approach, and build their new life. No force however great will be able to prevent the proud Iraqis from realizing their noble aims of defending the values of freedom and proceeding on the path of progress. The tyrant Iranian ruling clique will realize that it will never succeed in reducing the Iraqis' pride and dignity. God's hand will always be the upper one and the cherished aims of peace and the truth will triumph. The fate of the tyrants will be a total, permanent loss.

The following is a roundup of our operations for last night and today:

1. At 0510 [0110 GMT] today, a hostile force estimated at four infantry brigades attacked our forward positions in the Mehran area of the II Army Corps sector. Our great men, who believe in God and in the sanctity of the homeland's soil, confronted them, supported by our daring Air Force, our brave artillery, and heroic armor. Our men crushed the enemy attack and wiped out most of the enemy troops. Entire companies were completely wiped out and the situation was finally settled in favor of our brave forces.

God bless our brave men, who promised and fulfilled their promise and fought with valor. Crush your enemies and keep your heads high in battles of honor.

Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our units raided the enemy and clashed with them using all kinds of weapons, destroying three infantry positions and killing the occupents. Our men also destroyed one ammunition dump and seized one RPG-7 launcher and one GC rifle. Eight enemy troops were killed and one Kalashnikov rifle and one pistol were also seized in the same sector.

2. Our powerful Air Force is the pride of our great people. Since this morning the brave pilots have been overflying the Mehran basin above the renegade enemies and dropping death on them. They flew 180 combat missions inflicting extremely massive losses on the enemy troops, their equipment, weaponry, and supplies.

While carrying out their heroic task of destroying the enemy forces in this sector, our pilots spotted 250 trucks carrying personnel, and other enemy vehicles including armored carriers. Dozens of our planes pounced on them and completely wiped them out by setting them ablaze.

At 1302 [0902 GMT] today, our brave pilots sighted three enemy Cobra helicopters on the ground in the Merhan basin. They pounced on them and destroyed them.

Having carried out all of these missions, our brave pilots returned to the homeland safe in God's care.

God bless your efforts, O Iraqi pilots. Glory to our Air Force, the pride of Iraq and the Arab nation.

3. The brave men of our helicopter gunships have continued their daring attacks on enemy positions and troop concentrations, inflicting significant losses. They flew 28 combat missions and returned safely to base in God's care.

4. One of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris carried out a successful raid against enemy positions opposite our forces. It seized three rafts and one steel shelter, and returned safely to base. In the same sector, an enemy raft and an ammunition dump were destroyed.

5. On the VII Army Corps front, our forces damaged an enemy excavator and destroyed one bulldozer, one vehicle, a gun emplacement, and one infantry position. They also damaged one crane and killed an enemy soldier.

6. In the I Army Corps northern sector, six enemy infantry positions, three ammunition dumps, one vehicle, and one observation post were destroyed.

In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, two infantry positions, two ammunition dumps, and one truck were destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command

4 July 1986

Army Commander on Mehran Battle

JN051151 Baghdad INA in English 1129 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, July 5, INA, — A senior Iraqi military commander said that the Iranian troops had sustained huge losses during the recent battle in Mehran due to the fact that that area was open to the fire of Iraqi destructive weapons, he stressed.

Commander of Al-'Abbas forces, Mu'ayyad Isma'il Hammadi said, in an interview with the daily of the Iraqi Armed Forces *Al-Qadisiyah* here today, that Mehran basin area had become a direct target for Iraqi reconnoitering, Army fire and Air Force raids. The commander added "Hence, Mehran basin area is considered fallen, from the military angle, so long as it remains under the Iraqi fire to the extent that Iranian troops could not lift their heads up out of fear of Iraqi fire."

The commander mentioned that the Iranian troops suffered severe losses, which they failed to conceal in recent Mehran battle, adding "to the contrary, Iraqi Armed Forces had withdrawn systematically to international border to spare blood."

The commander noted that Iraqi forces at Mehran sector would go on hitting Iranian troops along that sector in order to smash the Iranian aggressive military machine.

Communique No 2,281

JN051726 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,281 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This glorious epic daily confirms that the lofty Iraqis have overcome all obstacles and have prepared themselves to defend their land, sovereignty, and principles, and to open the door wide to the enhancement of their future in accordance with their will. Whatever the enemies attempt to do, they will only reap humiliating defeats that will sweep away their regime and prevent them from attaining any evil objectives. Victory will always be for the future and its aspirations, for justice and those who champion it, and for virtue and those who exercise it. This is God's wish and this the logic of history.

The following is a roundup of our activities for last night and today:

1. Our giant Air Force will spare no effort to push the suspect despots toward perdition and destruction. Our brave eagles continued to stalk the aggressor Khomeyniites throughout the day. They carried out 80 daring air raids during which they poured their wrath on those who perpetrate petty actions. They succeeded in cutting off supplies from the rogues, killing large numbers of them, and destroying large quantities of their weapons, military hardware, and equipment. While our daring planes were carrying out their heroic duties today, they spotted 60 vehicles loaded with personnel at 0950 [0550 GMT]. [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic at 0928 GMT on 5 July reports: "While our daring planes were carrying out their duties of destroying enemy forces in the Mehran basin, they spotted 60 vehicles loaded with personnel at 0950 (0550 GMT) today.] The heroic eagles pounced on the vehicles destroying them with the scoundrels inside. Then they returned to base safely and triumphantly with their planes, praise be to God.

2. In an abortive attempt to approach our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector, the enemy attacked with a force estimated at an infantry regiment. Our brave soldiers confronted this force with all types of weapons and with splendid artillery support. The main part of the attacking force was destroyed with God's help, and others were taken prisoner while the remainder fled. One tank, four vehicles, one ammunition dump, and one observation post were destroyed. Several enemy soldiers were also killed in this sector.

3. Our heroic knights of the helicopter gunship force continued to pounce on enemy remnants with their famous courage and efficiency in 32 combat sorties today. They destroyed several enemy troop concentrations, and scored direct and destructive hits against enemy armored vehicles, weapons, and military hardware. Afterwards, they returned to base with their helicopters safely and triumphantly, and under God's guidance and protection.

4. Using artillery, tank fire, and other types of weapons, the VII Army Corps soldiers set fire to the enemy areas opposite them and destroyed several Khomeyniite positions. In addition they killed five enemy soldiers, and destroyed one shovel [last word in English], one vehicle loaded with ammunition, three ammunition dumps, and one medium-sized machine gun position.

5. One ammunition dump, 1 vehicle, 1 boat, 1 shelter, and 1 machine gun position were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, 19 Khomeyniite soldiers were killed in the V Army Corps northern sector; 3 enemy soldiers were killed and 1 mortar and 1 infantry position were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan; and 4 infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants were killed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. The criminal enemy shelled Abu al-Khasib district and the Khanaqin environs with long-range artillery, wounding three civilians in the Abu al-Khasib district.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command 5 July 1986

'Absolute Control' in Mehran

JN060746 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0632 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jul (INA) — The commander of Iraq's II Army Corps has affirmed that his forces are in absolute control of the military situation in the Mehran sector and are holding the keys to the Mehran basin. Staff Lieutenant General Diya' Tawfiq noted that the Mehran basin was and always will be militarily negligible and that the Iranian aggressors are daily suffering grave losses in battles waged by the II Army Corps formations.

In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah* published today, the commander noted that orders to withdraw the Iraqi forces to the international border were issued after fierce fighting during which the Iranians suffered massive losses in men and equipment. The Iraqi forces are now stationed on hills overlooking Mehran city which are the same positions in which the Iraqi forces were stationed before occupying the city.

The commander refuted the Iranian regime's claims and obscurantist allegations that the Iranians have occupied Iraqi police posts on the border and said that the battlefield provides the only accurate developments in the Mehran sector now that the largest possible numbers of Iranian troops have been wiped out along with their equipment. He said that the Iranian regime's allegations are absolutely trivial because we are used to hearing them all the time.

Iran's Losses 'Unprecedented'

JN060806 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jul (INA) — The commander of Iraq's 35th Division has warned the Iranian enemy against attempts to attack the northern [al-aysar] flank of the Mehran basin which his forces control. Brigadier General Faysal Mash'an al-Faysal said that the combat ability of the 35th Brigade is increasing 5 days after the Mehran battle, adding that his division is holding the military initiative with a high level of efficiency.

In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah* published today, he said that the Iranian forces' losses in front of the brigade have been unprecedented. He said that all the Iranian lies and claims published by imperialist and Zionist media are imaginary and will not justify the grave Iranian losses in the Mehran sector.

Communique No 2,282

JN061637 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,282 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces are continuing their combat activities with strong determination and ability, inflicting further losses on the aggressors with the help of God.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today.

1. Every day our Air Force scores a new feat in the epic of defending the homeland. Our planes today carried out 115 missions against enemy units, weaponry, and equipment, inflicting death on personnel and destruction on their equipment. At 0907 [0507 GMT] and 1125 today our aircraft made two successful raids on two maritime targets off the Iranian coast. The first target was medium-sized and the other large. Our brave pilots hit them both accurately and effectively and returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. The brave cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continued their bold, violent raids on enemy positions, lending the best support to our units and inflicting further losses on the enemy. They flew 25 combat sorties and returned safely to base, praised be God.

3. The enemy tried to approach our forward units' positions in the II Army Corps central sector three different times. Our brave men confronted them with all types of weapons, destroyed most of the enemy force, foiled its evil intentions, and forced the rest to retreat. The situation was settled in favor of our units. The enemy sustained the following losses in other areas in the same sector: a) 30 enemy soldiers killed and others wounded; b) 6 vehicles destroyed; c) 1 heavy-caliber machine gun destroyed; d) 9 positions of various types destroyed; and e) 1 ammunition dump set ablaze.

4. Our units on the VII Army Corps front continued to deliver effective strikes against enemy units, inflicting the following losses: a) four enemy soldiers killed; b) one 106-mm gun destroyed; c) one heavy-caliber machine gun destroyed; d) three vehicles destroyed; and e) two ammunition dumps set ablaze and two infantry positions destroyed.

5. One of our patrols in the V Army Corps northern sector found two 60-mm mortars and one RPG-7 launcher. Another patrol in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris brought back seven rafts left by the enemy during previous battles.

6. Two infantry positions and two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan pounded a group of enemy soldiers, killing or wounding some of them and destroying one ammunition dump.

7. Fleeing the regime of charlatans in Iran, some Iranian civilians defected to our forward units and were safely evacuated to the rear.

8. The criminal enemy shelled the village of Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 July 1986

President Congratulates Reagan on Independence Day

JN040648 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of congratulations to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on his country's Independence Day. The cable of congratulations reads: It gives me pleasure to extend sincere congratulations to Your Excellency, wishing you health and happiness and continued development and prosperity for the American people.

Egyptian Information Minister Arrives in Baghdad

JN042027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jul (INA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif arrived in Baghdad this evening at the head of a delegation visiting Iraq for several days. In a statement to INA, Safwat al-Sharif said that he has a written message from President Husni Mubarak to President Saddam Husayn dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries and the current Arab situation.

On the talks he will hold with Iraqi Information and Culture Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Al-Sharif said that these talks will center on information cooperation and coordination between the two countries. He explained that Iraq and Egypt will sign a protocol on information cooperation during the visit. The Egyptian minister was received by the Iraqi minister of information and culture.

Information Protocol Signed

JN051231 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 5 Jul (INA) — Iraq and Egypt signed a protocol on bilateral information cooperation here today. Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim signed it for Iraq and Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif signed it for Egypt.

During the signing ceremony, Latif Nusayyif Jasim stressed that fraternal ties between Iraq and Egypt have made large strides. Protocols define only the official formulas of these ties; recently there have been many forms of fruitful cooperation between the two sister countries in various fields, including information and culture.

Safwat al-Sharif thanked Latif Nusayyif Jasim and conveyed the greetings and appreciation of Egyptian information officials and intellectuals to their brothers in Iraq. He expressed his pride in visiting Iraq and signing the protocol, stressing that what has been achieved between the two sister countries along the road of information integration has gone beyond the provisions of protocols and agreements and attained a status expressing the strength of the political relations and other bonds linking the two countries. He said: There will be further joint information cooperation between us as an embodiment and consolidation of this strong relationship. He emphasized that Egypt — government and people — stand on the side of Iraq, which is defending right, until it achieves victory in its pan-Arab battle against the Iranian regime's aggression.

The protocol defines the methods of close information cooperation between the two countries to facilitate the exchange of information on the various aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life. It contains provisions for the exchange of visits, expertise, and information and bolstering cooperation between the two fraternal countries' press institutions. It also provides for ways to bolster cooperation between INA and MENA in all areas of news service by backing and boosting the agreement signed between the two agencies.

The protocol also provides for forming a joint committee made up of officials from the two ministries that will meet once every 6 months in Cairo and Baghdad alternately, provided that it holds its first meeting during the first 3 months after the ratification of the protocol. The committee will draw up an annual working plan to implement the provisions of the protocol and define the necessary commitments to ensure the implementation of this plan. The committee will submit its recommendations to officials in both countries for their decisions on them. The committee will also follow up the implementation of the protocol and suggest new areas of bilateral cooperation in the fields of information.

Holds News Conference

JN051829 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jul (INA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stressed his country's support for Iraq's legitimate rights on its own territory as well as its right to defend its sovereignty. In a press conference held in Baghdad today, he said Egypt will not stand by any Arab country which does not adopt clear stands, which does not adhere to Arab values, which pursues paths contradictory to Arab values, and which does not stand by Iraq.

The Egyptian information minister added that Iraq and Egypt have begun large-scale joint cooperation in the field of information, a fact reflecting the pofound political cooperation between Egypt and Iraq as well as the deep mutual confidence between President Saddam Husayn and President Husni Mubarak. He pointed out the cooperation covers several other areas, occupies a natural and historic position, and reflects the strategic and fraternal relations between Egypt and Iraq.

Safwat al-Sharif also said that cooperation between Iraq and Egypt in information has made great progress in making the Egyptian media an extension and an echo of the Iraqi media in reflecting truth and reality and in enlightening Arab public opinion about important Arab causes, as well as in making the Iraqi media a means of reflecting joint views on Arab issues and enlightening Arab public opinion about the Arab causes through cooperation and integration with Egyptian media.

Meets With 'Aziz

JN061048 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0928 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jul (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with visiting Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif here today. They discussed the developed fraternal bilateral relations and ways to promote them to serve Arab interests.

Meets With 'Izzat Ibrahim

JN061302 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif this morning. The talks, attended by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim and Iraqi and Egyptian officials in charge of the Iraqi and Egyptian interests sections in Baghdad and Cairo, dealt with the current media cooperation between the two fraternal countries. The talks also touched on ways to promote relations between Iraq and Egypt and expand them in expression of the firm desire of the two fraternal countries.

King Husayn on Al-Yarmuk University Incidents

JN051938 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1703 GMT 5 Jul 86

["Text" of 5 July letter from King Husayn to Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear Brother Zayd al-Rifa'i, our esteemed prime minister, may God protect you. I extend to you warm greetings and sincere appreciation and reiterate my trust in you. I wish you and your colleagues success in the assumption of your responsibilities and in the fulfillment of the trust, with the objective of seeking God's gratification and serving our dear homeland, which we are proud to be affiliated with, and our Jordanian Arab people of whom we are proud.

You and every Jordanian, as well as every observer of our region in general and of Jordan in particular, very well realize that the state of stability and security which has prevailed in our Kingdom over the past 15 years has been, as it is now and will continue to be, God willing, an oasis of tranquility and a source of pride for our homeland, an agent of development and prosperity for our people, an object of concern and envy to our enemies, and a source of admiration and appreciation for our friends.

However, this state of security and stability, and the general frame of mind which accompanied it which is distinguished by positive trends, amity, and cordiality among the various members of the one family and various social strata, has been exposed at a specific point to a treacherous and odious attempt seeking to harm this state, change its nature, and turn it from its course. This took place when a straying and misleading faction believed it could disturb stability in our country. To do this, it chose Al-Yarmuk University as a place for the cultivation of its sick ideas and as platform from which it would proceed with its trend conflicting with the homeland's course, which is deeply entrenched and whose features are well defined.

It exploited the emergence of some academic demands among the student community. This is a natural state common to all educational institutes. It sought, through a handful of students who deviated from educational objectives the university champions, to transform these academic demands into political demands serving its objectives.

This handful, intentionally and in accordance with a preset plan and for many other reasons, succeeded in transforming civilized dialogue, usually used in these cases, into a way to stir up riots and to carry out demagogic confrontations which are alien to our society and its nature. This led to regrettable incidents at Al-Yarmuk University on 13 and 14 May and whose results were the death of three students and the suspension of summer courses. This has harmed the majority of students and their relatives who had entrusted them to the university when they sent them there to obtain more knowledge and skills in various fields of specialization and to have them trained and prepared in science, the arts, and the social sciences in a manner qualifying them to shoulder their responsibilities toward themselves, their homeland, and their nation.

Despite what had taken place and with respect to what the corrupters had sought to achieve and what they had planned, this treacherous attempt, thanks to God, has only been a blemish which has somewhat obscured our stability. It failed to achieve more thanks to the awareness of our sons, the students, and their commitment to the objective for which they enrolled in the university and also thanks to the alertness of our security organs and our people's rallying around the pillars of our march.

Despite this, I was in great pain just like any other citizen, father, and mother about what had happened. I was in pain first over the death of three students in the prime of youth, who perished as victims of the planning of misguided people. I beseech God to grant their families strength to bear the burden of the disaster and to grant them patience and solace. I was in pain second because what had happened took place on the campus of a young university, where the young should grow sound and solid and not fall victims of deviationism. My pain increased when I acquainted myself with the report prepared by the ministerial committee, which was entrusted with the task of investigating the Al-Yarmuk incidents. As a result, I was convinced of the need to correct a number of issues relating to higher education and its institutions and to develop them in harmony with the goals we and our people worked out for our sons and daughters.

Since we asked the prime minister on 18 February 1962 to set up a royal committee for edcuational affairs in the country, we have stressed the government's duty to provide ways to create productive people and ideal citizens by giving the opprtunity of education to all citizens. Since the beginning when we assumed the trust of responsibility, we have directed our attention to the aim of building up the citizen so he can be the country's real wealth — a citizen who is qualified, productive, and disciplined and who is enlightened in the realm of knowledge and development and whose roots are firmly established in his homeland and civilization.

Over the years, God granted us success through the people's cooperation, commendable efforts, openness to the world, and deep awareness, as well as through logic and moderation among all citizens. God granted us success in enabling us to see our citizens epitomizing progress, sacrifice, and development. As a developing country, we have become an example to be followed by other people who participate in the social and economic development which we are experiencing.

Were it not for stability, awareness, and constructive dialogue, no civilization would have been built, no economy would have prospered, no culture would have been spread, and no son would have been educated. I do not know if it were mere coincidence that 2 months before the incidents at Al-Yarmuk University that newspapers referred to stability in Jordan and tried to find out why such stability has strictly been maintained despite the disputes and divisions which prevail in the region. I do not know if we should answer these people's questions and say our secret is a simple one. This is because we comprise a homogeneous, harmonious people who adopt cooperation toward agreements and open responsible dialogue when differences emerge. The secret lies in our people's rallying around their leadership and institutions and in their serious concern about achieving their aspirations. Thus, stability prevails, the state is built up, and everyone enjoys the fruits of prosperity and growth.

This is the concept that has always stood behind our policies in all fields. It is a concept that has proven its usefulness because it gained the consensus of the people's sons and became the beacon that directs their steps — whether individuals or groups — at public and private institutions alike giving them reassurance, unleashing their potential, and deepening their motives to work for the better so that the objective of self-development through higher education or the objective of gaining technical skills becomes the major concern of every mother and father and the desire of every male and female youth throughout the country.

The state, with its public and private sectors, met these desires and considered making them the basis of its policy to build qualified, responsible manpower. The state established training and technical institutes, and community colleges. The government constructed three universities and recently approved the establishment of a university for sciences and technology in Irbid, as well as a civilian wing for the Mu'tah University in Al-Karak. The government spent money to achieve all of this either through the allotment of funds before and after their establishment, through the taxes paid by citizens that are allocated for the universities, or through school fees paid by students.

Our institutes and unviersities are the property of the people. They are the people's reservoir of hopes and aspirations because they embrace their sons and protect their generations. They are the edifice that we set up with our sweat and funds in order to safeguard it with our souls and hearts. Hence, are they who attempt to harm the universities by damage or sabotage, diverting them from their goal, removing them from their course, or distorting their reputation sane? Anyone who tries to tamper with these scientific institutions is an aggressor against the entire people because he is tampering with the fate of their sons who are the treasure and hope of the homeland.

We, praise be to God, belong to a people who realize their responsibilities, protect their achievements, and safeguard their destinies. If delusions and imaginations have befallen the minds of some misguided persons who thought they could obstruct our good march, then I have great hope that they will realize their error, rejoin the march, and provide it with their constructive efforts for the welfare of the homeland and for the future of its generations. Within this context, we do not see more in the Yarmuk University incidents than an alarm that opens our eyes to the need to exert additional efforts in order to care for higher scientific institutes, promote them, and fill the gaps that might affect the scientific community in the kingdom however small these gaps might be and regardless of their source — whether they originate from carelessness or negligence or from attempts by some to divert them from their known natural course or from their goal to which every citizen aspires whether he is a son, father, an official, or an ordinary citizen.

The government's responsibility to define these gaps, fill them, and tackle all of the legislative, organizational, and administrative components of higher education has become urgent. I hope this will take place as soon as possible in order to preserve our universities' beauty and reputation, and to maintain our sons' confidence in the future.

May God grant you success and may he protect our people and homeland from deviation and our march from tampering and intrigues. He is the only one who grants success. May god's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Your Brother, Al-Husayn ibn Talal

Amman, 5 July 1986

Prince Hasan Scores Israeli-U.S. Ties

PM070834 Paris LE FIGARO in French 2 Jul 86 p 3

[Interview with Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan by Claude Lorieux in Amman; date not given]

[Text] Amman — Now, 5 months after the appointment of a new prime minister at the head of the national unity government in Israel, Jordan is worried above all about the current "strategic alignment" between the United States and the Jewish state.

"If the American aircraft that bombed Libya had not taken off from British bases but had used Israeli installations the United States would have totally destroyed its credibility in the region. Furthermore, the strategic alignment between Israel and the United States would have been confirmed to the extent that the prospect of Israel's becoming an integral part of the Middle Eastern region would have become totally unacceptable," we were told by Prince Hasan, King Husayn of Jordan's brother and closest aide.

Crown prince and regent in the king's absence, Prince Hasan received me in an unadorned and businesslike office, with maps on the walls (including those of the "Jewish settlements" in the occupied West Bank) and portraits of the young Hashemite Kingdom's three successive monarchs — his grandfather, father, and brother: 'Abdallah, Talal, and Husayn.

Washington and Terrorism

The prince avoided forecasts of the evolution of the debate in Israel on this strategic alignment plan. He voiced regret at "the insistence of the assistant defense secretary and the American Right as a whole in portraying Israel as a strategic asset in the confrontation with the Soviet Union." "What worries us most," the prince added, "is the (Israeli-American) free trade accord and the accords for the (coordinated) manufacture of high-technology military equipment." The "attempts to turn Israel into a kind of associate member of the EEC have been added to this," the crown prince stressed, "and all these forces are alienating Israel from our region and increasingly drawing it toward a kind of western alignment."

The crown prince also complained that the United States has a distorted view of the Middle East and places the emphasis on bilateral relations and on "a single issue" — terrorism — "despite the fact that for years my country has had a very steadfast stance on terrorism, of which it too has been a victim.

"The real problem," the prince added — he is as well known for his frank speaking as he is for his haughty laugh — "is that the United States no longer has a regional view as far as we are concerned; it is turning increasingly toward the Pacific; and it is giving priority to American-Japanese relations, which reduces the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East to a relative backwater. But I do not believe it is solely up to us to speak to the Americans; you Europeans must do so too. We both have a problem in addressing them. Furthermore, we represent a common middle ground between the two superpowers on the indivisible policy of detente."

Question: But are you not afraid of the response of young people — not only Palestinian, but Arab — to what seems to be an entirely blocked situation?
Answer: In this connection the prince stressed the development of the liberation movements' ideology which favors direct action and the ideological platform of the right wing forces — Islamic, Jewish, or evangelical Christian, "all active in the region" — which advocate "an uncompromising attitude and uncompromising action and which slam the door on dialogue."

"Young people are responsive to the liberation ideology, whether it is a matter of liberating occupied territories or liberating themselves from traditional political regimes or from a disadvantaged social position. Their frustration will naturally increase the dangers of violence."

Moment of Truth
The situation in the Arab world is a cause for concern for the leaders of the region, and especially the Jordanians. "I believe," the prince said, "that we are reaching the moment of truth as regards both the Gulf war and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Our collective identity itself is threatened...."

Citing in this connection the causes behind the recent Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement, Prince Hasan said he feared the emergence in Lebanon "of an ethnic and religious mosaic, the result of which could be to make the Israelis the primus inter pares of the region's minorities." "All indications are that Lebanon's Balkanization will affect the region's actual Arab identity," he added, "and I believe that the Syrians are fully aware of it."

What a great deal of ground has been covered since a joint political will sparked off the Arab revolt at the beginning of the century. Now "the common denominators between the countries of the region have little to do with the national idea." Considering the existing alliances or convergences, the prince asked: What do the Maronites and Palestinians have in common? The Shi'ites and Syrians? The Druze and Israelis? The Druze and Syrians? All these contradictions diminish the Arabs' collective will....

This trend, he went on, sets our political objectives in a religious, ethnic, and nationalistic situation that will result in the region's Balkanization. As has been said in the past, Balkanization produces mediocre politicians.

Two-Speed Arab League
Question: In this discouraging context is it not possible to envisage the Arab League trying to work at two different speeds, as the EC does?

Answer: "I agree entirely, but only as long as these two speeds are in the same direction," the prince replied: In his opinion the Arab world already runs at two different speeds. He is worried about the regular meetings of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries with those of the Steadfastness Front grouped around Syria and Libya. Clearly this twofold "introversion" cannot permit the solution of the major economic and population problems facing the region as a whole.

Confrontation
Question: What should one think of the proposed Marshall Plan for the Near East launched by Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres?

Answer: It was not Peres who launched the idea of a plan. We spoke about it as long ago as the early seventies.... It is hilarious to see Peres citing the economic factor in the region when in fact Israel has never tried to integrate itself into it. Furthermore, I believe that by using such a highly charged term as "Marshall Plan" he risks causing exactly the opposite of what he wants. This is what will happen: The region's countries and peoples — and especially the young people — will be exploited, either by the extreme right or by the extreme left, which is increasingly active. What will they say? That the industrialized countries of the North are proposing economic palliatives to unresolved political problems.

Question: Where do the Europeans come into all this? Vice President of the EEC Commission Claude Cheysson and the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers have said that no European peace initiative is justified until the Arab states themselves reach agreement on a credible negotiation plan. What do you think?

Answer: I believe that it is a realistic position, but at the same time I believe that the Europeans must display intellectual generosity. Bilateral trade relations based on the boom in oil prices and the priority given to talks with the various groups of Arab states — especially the Gulf Cooperation Council — have exhausted their potential. The Gulf Cooperation Council and the EEC are moving toward a confrontation.... It is necessary to go further and to make progress with all the countries of the region, with a joint examination of a viable future for the region.

Aqaba-Nuwaybi' Line Discussed With Egypt

JN040841 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
4 Jul 86 pp 1, 17

[By Khulud al-Ja'uni]

[Text] Nuwaybi' — The Jordanian side led by Transportation Minister Raja'i al-Dajani and the Egyptian side led by Eng Sulayman Mutawalli Sulayman, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport, held a meeting yesterday with members of the two delegations at the Nuwaybi' port administration.

Talks dealt with matters relating to the Arab overland bridge, the Aqaba-Nuwaybi' line, and there was an assessment of the success of this line 1 year following its inauguration.

The talks also defined the nagative aspects and obstacles to the work on this line, and there was a discussion of the possibility of facilitating the procedures relating to passage, customs, and other services. There was also a discussion on establishing units that protect travelers and vehicles, such as civil defense and medical services.

At the beginning of the meeting, Raja'i al-Dajani delivered a speech noting the importance of the meeting, which aims at a complete review of the steps taken to operate the shipping line between Aqaba and Nuwaybi' linking the Arab East to the Arab Maghreb which was inaugurated by His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Husni Mubarak.

The Egyptian transport minister also spoke at the meeting. He hailed His Majesty King Husayn's efforts and the resumption of relations between the two countries. He called for coordination to implement the decisions of the joint Jordanian- Egyptian committee.

Irbid Candidate Contests Election Result

JN030936 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 3 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] 'Abd al-Majid Nusayr, one of the candidates in the June 19 Irbid by-election and who lost to Jamal 'Ubaydat, said on Wednesday he had submitted a formal petition to the Lower House of Parliament seeking an annulment of the election.

In his petition Dr. Nusayr alleged that the elections were unfairly conducted.

In reply to Dr. Nusayr's bid, Mr. 'Ubaydat issued a statement refuting charges that the election process was tampered with. Supporters of Dr. Nusayr had expected that their candidate was bound to win and used mosques, schools and Islamic centres to campaign for the former lecturer of Yarmouk University and levelled baseless accusations against other candidates, Mr. 'Ubaydat said in his statement.

"It is really regrettable to see this group of supporters acting in such a manner, totally disregarding any other candidate who enjoys a large base of support in the constituency for his valuable services to his community," Mr. 'Ubaydat said.

"I won with a great majority in my constituency whose people have willingly provided all the means of transport for all voters, and have shown beyond any doubt that they genuinely supported me in the election, a gesture which I will never forget," Mr. 'Ubaydat said.

The authorities in charge of the by-election were fair in applying regulations at the voting centres but supporters of the losing candidates were of course discontended with the results, which were unfavourable to them and to their candidate, he said.

The supporters of the losing candidate have now resorted to issuing rumours and distributing pamphlets displaying their dissatisfaction with the election result, he added in his statement.

The *Jordan Times* has learnt that a special parliamentary committee charged with examining petitions similar to Dr. Nusayr's would not be able to study the issue until parliament is in ordinary session again in October, unless the subejct is added to the agenda of any extraordinary parliamentary session that may be convened under Royal Decree.

Deputy's Report on West Bank Visit Detailed

JN031105 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Jul 86 p 22

[Text] Amman — *Al-Dustur* — House of Representatives member Mufid al-Mubaslat has presented to the House of Representatives presidency a report containing his remarks on the situation in the occupied West Bank to be submitted to the Government.

The report stresses the need to establish a broad Jordanian Arab media directed at the West Bank through press and various news media and also by beaming studied radio and television programs which employ scientific methods based on truthfulness, reason, and frankness so that a firm decision can be made to tackle all daily issues.

The report also says that the absence of Arab atuhority from the West Bank has helped the enemies sow the seeds of tribal fanaticism, which has resulted in the creation of continuous differences and problems in the towns and villages which should be tackled by studied positive, scientific methods.

The report points out that unemployment has spread among all groups of the people there, especially among university graduates, of which there are more than 15,000, and qualified individuals. The report emphasizes the need to ease living conditions through a detailed objective and scientific study.

The report suggests preparing a media program for our youth in the occupied homeland which can be directed at the generation that emerged after 1967 by using advanced social and psychological methods that will help these youth deal with their daily affairs and save them from dangers, mistakes, and from falling into enemy traps.

The report stresses the need for continued revision of the economic sitaution — agricultural, industrial, labor, and social — along with extending reasonable and acceptable material support to assist and back our kinfolk there. The report also stresses the need to preserve our sacred heritage by appointing tourist guides linked to the Awqaf in Jerusalem or to some other reliable department in order to provide a true and genuine explanation of our sanctities.

Agricultural Project To Be Financed in W. Bank

JN060738 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] Informed economic sources have said that the sum of 3 million dinars has been allocated to implement an agricultural project in the Al-Fari'ah area in the occupied West Bank on a 16,000 dunum area as part of the comprehensive development plan prepared by the ministries of occupied homeland affairs and planning for the West Bank. These sources said that the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic and Social Development has agreed to finance the project, which is aimed at planting bananas, citrus fruit, and vegetables on that land.

The sources noted the encouraging economic feasibility of the project, which would provide an annual income of 500,000-750,000 dinars. These sources explained that the development plan also caters to a project to produce concentrated citrus juice. The project will cost $25 million, 9 million Jordanian dinars, and will absorb the surplus of citrus fruit from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The sources said that the establishment of this factory would satisfy the Arab market requirements instead of being imported from abroad.

House Speaker Comments on Committee To Unify Arabs

JN040758 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
4 Jul 86 pp 1, 17

[Text] Amman — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU], will meet in Damascus today with Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and Tunisian National Assembly President Mahmoud Messadi. They will discuss the decision made at the APU's fourth conference, held in Amman last March, about the tasks of the parliamentary committee stemming from the conference to clear the Arab atmosphere, remove differences, and face the challenges and dangers posed to the Arab nation as well as to unify the Arab ranks to confront these dangers.

In a statement to *Sawt al-Sha'b*, Al-Fayiz said that the committee will begin its mission next week by visiting Iraq. He said that the committee members, comprising the heads of parliament in Kuwait, the UAE, the YAR, and Tunisia, will arrive in Amman next week. He added that the committee will visit the Arab East and the Arab Maghreb and that it will work to clear the Arab atmosphere and disucss the current Arab situation and ways to bolster Arab solidarity.

Al-Fayiz said he is looking forward to meeting Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He said that he will discuss with Al-Zu'bi and Messadi bilateral relations, the current Arab situation, parliamentary relations, and ways to strengthen and bolster cooperation among Arab parliamentarians in a way that serves the causes of the entire nation.

Replying to a question on Sudan's inclusion in the APU, Al-Fayiz said that Sudan ahd been an APU member until the recent uprising in Sudan and that it would renew its APU membership after submitting a request at the meeting of the APU council which will be held in Abu Dhabi in February 1987.

Al-Fayiz left Amman yesterday evening on a 2-day visit to Syria in response to an official invitation from Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. Al-Fayiz is accompanied on his visit by Zayd Zurayqat, head of parliamentary affairs at the National Assembly.

King Congratulates Reagan on Independence Day

JN031832 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to His Excellency U.S. President Ronald Reagan congratulating him, in his name and on behalf of the people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, on the independence day anniversary. In his cable, his majesty the king expressed his congratulations to the U.S. people and government on this occasion symbolizing the U.S. nation's supreme ideals and principles which emphasize all peoples' right to live in dignity, peace, and freedom away from injustice and war. This is the objective of anyone seeking to achieve a better future for all mankind.

His majesty referred to his meeting with the U.S. President in Washington last month, as well as to the assertion of the joint commitment toward achieving a just and permanent peace in the Middle East.

Omani Sultan Qabus Arrives in Aqaba 5 July

JN051323 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman arrived in Aqaba this afternoon and was welcomed at Aqaba airport by His Majesty King Husayn. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, the Ma'an governor, the commander of the southern military area, the director of the Aqaba district police, and senior Ma'an Governorate and Aqaba district officials were also present to welcome his majesty.

Booby-Trapped Car Defused Near Beirut Airport

NC031630 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] A booby-trapped car, which was parked 10 meters from the Beirut airport entrance, was defused at 1645 today. The Fiat 2000 had been rigged with 200 kg of TNT.

'Arafat Blamed

NC041220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Security sources have revealed some new information about the booby-trapped car that the Syrians discovered yesterday near Beirut International Airport. According to these sources, Yasir 'Arafat personally entrusted a certain party [jihhat mu'ayyanah] to park the vehicle near the airport and set it off there. The purpose of such an act would have been to strike at the recent Damascus agreement covering West Beirut and the areas in and around the Palestinian camps following Syria's successful efforts in this field. This was an attempt by 'Arafat to bring back chaos and insecurity, and to confuse the nationalist and Islamic forces in order to serve Israel's goals in Lebanon.

The security sources stressed that a decision has been made to confront all lawbreakers and obstructionists, regardless of the slogans or cover under which they may be working. This applies both to 'Arafat's group and to any other organization with direct links to the Israeli enemy or his agents inside the country.

Syrian Special Forces Reportedly in West Beirut

NC041825 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] According to security sources in West Beirut, a Syrian special forces battalion has arrived at the Beau Rivage building via the mountain-Khaldah road. Members of the battalion immediately took up positions with security force personnel at fixed and mobile checkpoints. Several other military units had arrived earlier this week and some of these were deployed around the camps while others joined the security force.

Responding to a question on the significance of this deployment, a Syrian officer stated that the security plan for Beirut is a Syrian scheme which must be made to succeed by any means. In this regard he referred to a remark made by Brigadier Ghazi Kan'an. Kan'an said that the ordinary citizen will be able to see our men with the security force on patrol, at checkpoints, and around the camps. Current conditions, he added, require that this be done if peace and order are to be established.

Deploy Around Camps; Number 3,000

NC050825 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] In the first step of its kind since the Israeli invasion of 1982 and the Syrian withdrawal from Beirut, the Syrian military command has sent troops from the special forces, equipped with rocket launchers and automatic weapons, to West Beirut. The Syrian soldiers have taken up positions around the Palestinian camps.

According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, some Syrian tank crews are also present, and they can operate the T-54's that Amal received from Syria about a year ago.

Security sources note that the arrival of these reinforcements has brought the number of Syrian troops in West Beirut to about 3,000, and this is expected to rise to 5,000 by the end of the month.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has been quoted as saying that the West Beirut security plan must be tested for 2 weeks. He added that if the situation demands it, his country will send in additional forces and will use its own means to impose order.

Sham'un on Syrian Forces' Entry

NC050937 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Replying to a question from the Voice of Lebanon on the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut, former President [and Minister of Finance] Camille Sham'un has said: We do not want to anticipate matters and we are waiting for more information. He added: If this will put an end to the war in West Beirut and will be the beginning of an end to the war for all Lebanon, then we have no objection.

Source: Presence Unauthorized

NC052013 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] AFP reports that Syrian Colonel 'Uthman [not further identified] has declared that the Syrian special forces will shortly assume responsibility for the southern coastal approach to Beirut.

Answering questions about the entry of Syrian regular forces into West Beirut, an official source said that the Syrian forces entered without a decision or request by the Lebanese Government or the Supreme Defense Council — the appropriate authority for approving such a move. The source added that these forces had deployed and assumed security duties without coordination with the military authorities.

Kan'an Denies Entry Into Beirut

NC060618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Reacting to statements on the Syrian presence in West Beirut, Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon, told the newspaper *Al-Safir* this morning that he had nothing new to say about the Beirut security plan. He added: We have strengthened the Lebanese security force, which consists of Army and internal security personnel. That is what actually happened. We are giving this unit every form of support and assistance.

Brig Gen Kan'an denied the entry of soldiers into Beirut. He noted: I brought in some security men as part of this trend. We are still committed to the local plan, which has been designed to reinforce the Army and security forces so they may gain control of things.

Continuing, Brig Gen Kan'an explained: Such statements seek to upset the implementation of the security plan in West Beirut, as it has improved the situation in the capital. I have met people from the eastern areas who wished that the same type of authoritative security [amn marji'iy] we see in West Beirut could be introduced elsewhere. There is no such security in East Beirut, where the Army, the security forces, the militias, and the Lebanese Forces are all present. But there is authoritative security in West Beirut. The militias, wherever they may be, can never guarantee security. Authoritative security can be achieved only by consolidating the legitimate authorities, so they may bring things under control.

In his statement to *Al-Safir*, Brig Gen Kan'an pointed out that this trend has been discussed with party and militia leaders. Along with Beirut's various prominent politicians and the commanders of the internal security forces and the Army, they pledged to abide by the plan's provisions. We told them that we have come to help end the sufferings of our people.

In conclusion, Kan'an said: Our moves are not secret. We are trying to create a security situation that will end this ordeal. We are proud of this. When we succeed in doing so, we will have accomplished our mission.

Security Measures To Be Extended

NC060936 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Security sources have revealed that the security measures are to be extended to streets and areas hitherto not included in the plan. These include Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq, Zuqaq al-Balat, Al-Bastah, Al-Nuwayri, and other areas around Burj Abu Haydar. The sources added that Syrian personnel of the special units will erect fixed roadblocks at Khaldah junction and will dispense with party roadblocks in the area.

It has been reported that Lebanese and Syrian security commanders are currently considering the removal of fortifications and ramparts erected around party centers and embassies. This step, however, would have to be approved by the ministerial committee.

Syrians in Khaldah To Control Coast

NC041453 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The Syrian intelligence service has established several roadblocks in the Khaldah area to control the coast and to prevent pro-'Arafat personnel from infiltrating into the vicinity via this road. The Syrians have also transported a large number of detainees from West Beirut to Syria in order to interrogate them about their participation in security offenses.

Amal Detains Syrian Group

NC061921 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] According to a security report from West Beirut, Amal personnel manning a roadblock in Al-Awza'i stopped a Syrian intelligence group riding in a stolen Mercedes. The report said that the group was taken to Amal movement's headquarters.

Meanwhile, Yunis Qa'qur stole a green Mercedes 280 in 'Ayn al-Muraysah and sped away to an unknown destination.

In another development, gunmen exchanged fire in Al-Tariq al-Jadidah a short while ago. A special security force patrol intervened, but as soon as the force left the area, the gunmen reappeared.

Intermittent clashes involving the use of machineguns and rockets are taking place between the army of southern Lebanon and Palestinian and extremist Islamic organizations on the Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir combat lines.

Syrian Commandos Reportedly Remain in Mashgharah

NC032009 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] According to AP reports, Syrian commando units are still in the Al-Biqa' town of Mashgharah despite yesterday's reports that they had withdrawn. AP noted that the Syrians do not show any indication of leaving the town soon.

Surround Other Al-Biqa' Town

NC041149 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] According to reports from the Al-Biqa', Syrian forces are surrounding the town of Al-Khidr after a member of Syrian intelligence was killed in a dispute with local residents. The Syrians have staged several raids and have detained a number of people for questioning.

Tension Continues

NC041905 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Tension continues to prevail in the Al-Biqa' town of Al-Khidr following yesterday's exchange of fire between an Arab deterrent force patrol and gunmen loyal to Hamdah. One Syrian soldier was killed in the shooting. The exchange of fire began after the patrol stormed the town to arrest 'Abd al-Jalil Hamdah, the man responsible for incidents which took place in the town about 2 months ago and during which approximately 10 people were killed.

After the shooting, the Syrian forces surrounded Al-Khidr with some 50 vehicles and banned all entry into or exit from the town. The sound of gunfire could still be heard around the town until this afternoon.

Amal Official Cited on Cooperation With Israel

NC052003 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Mahmud 'Atwa, an Amal movement official in southern Lebanon, told Israeli radio today that his forces are interested in peace with Israel. He said the Amal movement is cooperating with Israel to keep away Palestinian guerrillas from the border area and preserve the fragile peace.

'Atwa said that Israel has not completely succeeded in achieving its declared goal of expelling Palestinian guerrillas from Lebanon. He explained that Israel sent them far from its borders so that they would not cause problems in the area. Israel, however, pushed them only to the middle of the road and left them there for Amal to deal with them.

Asked about the reason for this radical change in position, 'Atwa said: We have met with a response to our demands from responsible Israeli sources. We have obtained a frank promise that Israel has no intention of annexing the security zone.

Birri's Office Denies Report

NC052038 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The Amal movement this evening denied the report broadcast by Israeli radio citing an official in the movement. A responsible source in Minister Nabih Birri's office told REUTER that Mahmud 'Atwa is not a member of the Amal movement.

USSR, E. Bloc Envoys Pay 'Secret' Visit to UNIFIL

LD051308 Kuwait KUNA in English 1022 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Beirut, July 5 (KUNA) — Ambassadors from three East European states have paid a secret visit to the bases of United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for the first time since it was established in 1978, press reports said saturday.

Daily *Al-Nahar* said today that the ambassadors of the Soviet Union, East Germany and Romania visited the UNIFIL from June 26-30 accompanied by a number of the international force commandors.

Diplomatic sources here said that Nepal's contingent is expected to withdraw from the UNIFIL and be replaced by a contingent from one of the socialist states, probably Poland.

Meanwhile, secretary general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry Fu'ad al-Turk began today a tour to the East Bloc including the Soviet Union, East Germany, Romania and the People's Republic of China.

Iran Trying To Bring About Release of Hostages

GF051846 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 3 Jul 86 pp 1, 7

[Report by Muhammad Sa'id Dalbah]

[Text] *Al-Watan* has learned from informed Arab diplomatic sources that a senior Iranian official will visit Paris shortly in order to completely normalize French-Iranian relations.

The sources said that this visit will result in the release of all foreign hostages in Lebanon now that the initial outcome of the Iranian-French agreement resulted in the release of two French hostages. They were released following a visit by an official Iranian delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Ma'eri.

The sources said that the Hizballah leadership in Lebanon released the two French hostages as a goodwill gesture and as a result of Iran's pressure in the framework of improving relations between Hizballah and Syria which released, in return, 23 Hizballah elements who were arrested by the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa'.

The sources said that following the release of the French hostages, an agreement was reached in which Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah will make a visit to Damascus. He will arrange a final reconciliaton with Syria which stipulates in return that the Hizballah should not discuss the leadership of Amal leader Nabih Birri, at least not in the current political circumstances. The Hizballah previously raised the issue of Amal's violations with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Hizballah describing some of these violations as serious. Khaddam promised to discuss all issues which require solutions with Amal through a special committee to be formed for this purpose.

The sources said the Syrian Government played a big role in normalizing relations between Iran and France through many secret visits by Syrian officials to Paris. France responded by limiting the activities of the Iranian opposition in France. The sources said that as a result of the Syrian-French rapprochement, the French forces within UNIFIL will enjoy a security role outside the framework of their original duties in Jazzin as a first step to impose a "legitimate" security settlement in southern Lebanon. The sources said that the French Ministry of External Relations is closely studying the new French move in Lebanon, where the crisis is like a mine field, fearing a new involvement which would probably bring back the suicide operations which were carried out against the French and U.S. forces in Beirut in 1983.

Hostages Reportedly Part of 'Deal'

NC031709 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] According to a diplomatic source, the foreign hostages being held in Lebanon are the subject of a comprehensive deal involving certain major powers, the Arab countries directly concerned with the hostage issue, and other countries which are playing an indirect role in the mediation.

According to this source, the gradual release of the French hostages is tied to Iranian requests that certain Iranian exiles in France be deported. If the French authorities comply with the Iranian demand, then the release of the rest of the hostages [not further specified] may be possible in the near future. As for the U.S. hostages, the conditions for their release are more difficult. Their freedom is linked to Washington's political views with regard to solutions for the region's problems.

Karami Responds to Forces Statement on Economy

NC031536 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has declared that the comprehensive strike observed throughout Lebanon today confirms the Lebanese people's unity, vigilance, and democracy.

In a statement he made upon emerging from the Government House, Prime Minister Karami said: The people who have refused to allow this strike to be politicized or utilized to serve their own goals and policy did so to prove their selflessness and support for this action. He added: Some of these people, however, have departed from their declared stand. They implemented the strike action before anyone else in order to achieve objectives other than those sought by the people who called for the strike. By these people I mean those who have declared a 3-day truce and who have called on the government to resign or be dismissed if a cabinet session is not convened.

Prime Minister Karami stated: In my opinion, this tactic is an attempt to disable the government and to hold it alone responsible for everything that has and is happening. I was speaking frankly when I declared that I hold myself responsible in my capacity as prime minister. I said that this responsibility is shared by the rulers and government together. I also reiterated that I expect those who should admit that they share responsibility for events with us to be bold enough to do so. Then we can decide to resign collectively.

Prime Minister Karami posed the question: Now that the boycott has been in practice for many months, is it reasonable for us to back down from it in a period of 3 days at the request of people who have usurped the legitimate port and all rights to the treasury and who have established an authority outside the legitimate one by setting up roadblocks and imposing levies, taxes, and fees? It is astonishing to me that as a result of the strike they now declare their illusionary readiness to hand over all their authority to the state. In their view, what exactly constitutes this state? In the final analysis it is the authority of their own party which constitutes the state.

Prime Minister Karami stated: We have discussed all these matters in cabinet meetings many times. We ourselves have called for the return of the legitimate and illegimate ports [to the state]. Their representatives responded by asking that the illegitimate ports be made legitimate. An Army force was formed to deal with the illegitimate ports and to take over the legitimate port of Beirut. After only a few weeks, these people retook the legitimate port and reestablished the illegitimate ports. We no longer believe such declarations. They are only meant to fool us.

In conclusion Prime Minister Karami affirmed: When we declared our stand on the need for collective resignation, I believed that there was no other solution. Each passing day makes me feel more and more that we are approaching the end of this sad situation. He who lives will see it.

VOL: Helicopter Downed Near Homs; 2 Officers Killed

NC051148 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that two senior Syrian officers were killed on Wednesday while flying in a Syrian helicopter in (Al-Kalakh), southeast of Homs. The helicopter was downed by a surface-to-air missile inadvertently fired by Syrian forces. The crew was killed along with the two officers.

Jordanian House Speaker Arrives in Damascus 3 Jul

JN040644 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] president, has said that he is happy to visit Syria. He said: To us, a visit to Damascus is a family visit. He added: Relations between the two countries are constantly developing in the service of bilateral and pan-Arab interests and to achieve our nation's obejctives of liberation and development.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent on his arrival in Damascus yesterday evening, 'Akif al-Fayiz said that his talks with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi will focus on the current state of affairs in the region, bilateral relations, particularly on the parliamentary level, and matters pertaining to the APU and the implementation of the 17th APU conference resolutions.

Meets With Al-Zu'bi

JN041205 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU], has hailed the pan-Arab role Syria is playing under President Hafiz al-Asad as well as its persistent struggle to support the Arab causes and its endeavors to pool all resources, deepen Arab solidarity, and place all capabilities in the service of the battle of Arab fate. This came when People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi received 'Akif al-Fayiz this morning in the presence of Shakir Sa'id, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee at the Assembly.

At this meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral parliamentary, Arab, and international issues and exchanged views on coordinating these issues and the stands on them. Talks also dealt with matters relating to the APU and its forthcoming working plan in order to implement the resolutions of the APU's 17th council, which was held in Amman last March. They also dealt with the persistent endeavors to activate Arab parliamentary action to serve the causes of our Arab nation, particularly the Palestine question.

Al-Zu'bi and Al-Fayiz expressed their deep satisfaction with the development of relations between the two fraternal countries and its effect on the stand of Arab steadfastness on the Zionist and imperialist schemes.

The two sides reviewed the current situation in the region and the stands on it. They stressed the importance of the role the Arab parliamentarians can play, particularly through the APU, to support the Arab liberation march, achieve Arab solidarity, and explain the Arab causes at international parliamentary forums.

Received by Al-Asad

JN051135 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] In Damascus President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union, at 1100 today. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. The talks revolved around the situation in the Arab arena.

Makes Statement, Departs 7 Jul

JN071006 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jul (SANA) — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union, left Damascus for Amman today at the end of a 4-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, a number of the Assembly's bureau members and its secretary general; 'Abd al-Rahman al-Burawi, secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union; the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus; and senior employees from the Union's general secretariat.

In a statement to SANA prior to his departure, Al-Fayiz expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to the country and described the visit as successful. He said: I had the honor of meeting with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and discussing with him bilateral relations and the current situation in the region. Al-Fayiz expressed appreciation for Syria's role in tackling fateful Arab issues and highly praised President Hafiz al-Asad's efforts, especially in helping Lebanon overcome its dilemma. He praised Syria's sacrifices at all levels with the aim of restoring normal life to the fraternal country as soon as possible, achieving national accord, and liberating its territory from Zionist occupation.

'Akif al-Fayiz indicated that his talks with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi focused on bilateral parliamentary affairs and issues related to the Arab Parliamentary Union. He affirmed that his viewpoints and those of the People's Assembly speaker were identical on all the topics that were discussed. Concluding his statement, Al-Fayiz expressed satisfaction with the progress of work in the Arab Parliamentary Union and with the efforts the Union's general secretariat is exerting to implement the resolutions of its sessions. He also expressed satisfaction with the general secretariat's activities on the Arab and international parliamentary levels.

PDRY Chairman Stops in Damascus, Makes Statement

JN041857 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas made a stopover at the Damascus airport this afternoon on his way home from Tripoli. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs; the assistant chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; the PDRY charge d'affaires in Damascus; and PDRY Embassy staff.

Al-'Attas made a statement in which he expressed pleasure at making a stopover at the Damascus airport on his way to the PDRY. He explained that the meetings he held in Tripoli with Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi and Libyan officials were characterized by cordiality and brotherhood, that all issues of mutual concern were discussed, and that they stressed the need to consolidate the struggle front against imperialism and Zionism to enable our Arab nation achieve its objectives in liberating the occupied land.

Al-'Attas added: We voiced our solidarity with the Jamahiriyah which was the target of flagrant aggression at the hand of U.S. imperialism. He said: As we head home today, we affirm the need to reinforce Syria's steadfastness against imperialist and Zionist designs which are aimed against Syria, the bastion of Arab steadfastness. Al-'Attas explained that his talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in Tripoli were fruitful. He said that they exchanged ideas on ways to consolidate the march toward unity between the two Yemens on a peaceful and democratic basis.

Al-Shar' Receives Iranian Foreign Ministry Official

JN061521 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 6 Jul (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Hoseyn Lavasani, political director general of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, here today. The Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks dealt with bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

Economy, Oil, Industry Ministers Leave for Tehran

JN041551 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] A delegation comprising the ministers of economy, oil, and industry left Damascus today for Tehran for economic talks with Iranian officials. This visit falls within the framework of economic and trade relations between the two friendly countries.

AL-BA'TH on Improvement in Cairo-Baghdad Relations

JN060539 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Jul 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* deals with the continuous improvement in relations between the two agent regimes of Cairo and Baghdad, whose aims will eventually harm the Arab nation's cause. The paper says: While the Egyptian regime's information minister is coordinating media campaigns with the fascist Iraqi regime that serve the enemy and its plots, Mubarak is dispatching his tourism minister to Israel to revive tourism between the two sides. The paper adds: So far there is nothing unusual because the two regimes have devoted themselves to serving enemy interests. However, the unusual thing is the two regimes' repeated calls for ending Arab differences.

The paper notes that the road to ending differences is clear and well-defined and cannot be changed or circumvented. The Zionist enemy is plotting against all Arab countries, particularly Syria, and is endeavoring to strike the Arab countries one after another, either by relying on military pwoer or by forcing Arab regimes to fall in the enemy's lap, as Al-Sadat and his successor have done. Therefore, Syria was the first to call for renouncing and liquidating Arab differences. Syria continues to reiterate its call and to sincerely work for realizing it on the basis of firmly opposing our fierce enemy and pooling the nation's resources for the fateful battle for which we must all be prepared.

Al-Ba'th concludes by saying: Our pan-Arab stance is as firm as the path leading to liquidating our differences and confronting the enemy. Our masses have rejected words that do not conform to practice and have exposed those who exploit and hide behind slogans. The confrontation trench will remain open to all the strugglers who genuinely work for our nation and its supreme interests.

AL-THAWRAH Says 'Arafat Plays 'Dirty Role'

JN050638 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 Jul 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanon Will Not Be a Fertile Ground for Chaos Again," *Al-Thawrah* says: It is not a coincidence that Israel's agents in Lebanon are moving at this particular time and making feverish attempts to disrupt security and obstruct the march of national solution. These attempts come directly after the great success of the security plan in West Beirut and in the wake of the atmosphere of stability and calm that has prevailed on all levels. Israel's agents do not want Lebanon to enjoy a life of security and reassurance. Therefore, they become active whenever the fraternal country approaches a state of security and political recovery.

There is no need to emphasize that 'Arafat and his clique are playing a dirty role in this because they have a great interest in maintaining the state of tension and aggravation in Lebanon and in serving Israel's destructive designs. This was confirmed by the mined car discovered in the Beirut airport area. Lebanese sources affirmed that 'Arafat had personally asked a certain side to place the car in that area in an attempt to prevent the implementation of the Damascus agreement on the camps which was recently signed by the Amal movement and the Palestine National Salvation Front. This incident clearly reveals the serious role 'Arafat and his clique are playing in the Lebanese arena. It also strongly proves that there are constant contacts between Israel's agents in Lebanon and both 'Arafat and his clique. However, this will not suffice to cause the security situation in Beirut to explode once again because the security plan continues to be implemented with extraordinary success amid great popular satisfaction in all Lebanese circles. The feverish attempts being undertaken by Israel's agents to disrupt these measures will inevitably turn against them because they will eventually pay the price for all their dirty practices against the Lebanese people. This fact should be clear in the minds of all because Lebanon will not be a fertile ground for chaos again.

Tabah Talks With U.S. Begin in Jerusalem

Arbitral Document Delayed

TA031810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] The talks on Tabah between Israel and the United States will continue tomorrow. The first day of talks ended a short while ago at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Egypt did not submit its formulation of the addendum to the arbitral compromis to Abraham Sofaer, the head of the U.S. delegation, as expected, and this is causing a delay in the completion of the arbitral document. Today the procedures for the appointment of the international arbiters were concluded. It is possible that Mr Sofaer will also meet tomorrow with the senior political team: the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister. He will leave for Cairo over the weekend, and will apparently return to Israel several days later.

Teams End 'Positive' Talks

TA041532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Another round of talks on the Tabah issue between U.S. and Israeli representatives has ended in Jerusalem this afternoon. The head of the Israeli delegation, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that the talks were positive and that ideas were presented which could bridge the gap between the positions of Israel and Egypt regarding the formulation of the arbitral compromis. Abraham Sofaer, the head of the American delegation, will depart for Egypt tommorrow in order to present the Israeli position and hear the Egyptian reaction. Officials in Jerusalem assess that it is possible to complete the formulation of the arbitral compromis by the end of next week.

Intelligence Officer on Trial for Spying for Syria

TA040423 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] An Israeli intelligence officer is reportedly on trial in Haifa for spying for Syria. This was reported in today's *Ha'aretz* newspaper, quoting from a New York Hebrew-language weekly, *Yisra'el Shelanu*. According to the New York newspaper, an Israel Army major is being tried in Haifa District Court in camera and the trial is in the advanced stage. The report says that the officer was arrested after a terrorist squad in south Lebanon gave interrogators his name. The terrorists said they had heard about the major from Syrian intelligence officers who had trained them. So far, there has been no response from the Army spokesman's office.

Bar-Lev Indirectly Confirms

TA061020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev indirectly confirmed reports about an Israeli major being tried for spying for Syria. Asked why no information had been released about the case, Bar-Lev replied: Because the court decided it would remain secret.

London Sources on Syria's Role in Madrid Attack

TA040738 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Jul 86 p 2

[Report by Jerry Lewis]

[Text] London — Syria's Air Force intelligence service was behind the unsuccessful attempt to plant a bomb on an El Al airliner at Madrid Airport last week, according to sources here.

The intelligence service's chief, General Muhammad al-'Ali is believed to have had prior knowledge of the attempt. The current spate of terrorist activity, the sources say, was ordered by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who is still seeking revenge for Israel's interception of a small Syrian jet carrying senior Syrian officials home from a secret conference in Libya.

The London sources have indicated that Syrian officers may have been working with Italian and French terrorists as well as with two Palestinians, Abu Ibrahim who heads the May 15th Organization and Abu Nidal, a PLO renegade.

Evidence of Arab-European links was reinforced with the arrest of Nasir Hasan al-'Ali and a Spanish petty criminal in Madrid last week shortly after the airport incident.

Al-'Ali is said to be a member of the May 15th Organization and is believed to have previously worked for Syrian Air Force intelligence. The sources claim he was briefed in Damascus and was provided with a Syrian passport.

He was then sent to Athens where he was to have been given further instructions about planting a bomb on an airliner before moving on to Paris. In the French capital, he was due to join a Paris-based terror team.

In Athens, he met three other members of the team and each made his own way to Paris. 'Ali was instructed to go via Milan where it is understood he met members of the Red Brigade and received money and a suitcase containing a sealed compartment filled with a new and undetectable type of explosive similar to the one used at the Berlin discotheque, killing American soldiers.

Al-'Ali was able to take the explosives through Paris and Madrid airports without being detected.

The Syrians advised him not to take the suitcase onto the aircraft himself, but to find a small-time criminal willing to accept a big reward for carrying heroin. After trying unsuccessfully to find someone else Al-'Ali was told to move to Madrid.

Evidently it was only the petty criminal's curiosity that led to the discovery of the explosives. He started poking around the suitcase, looking for the heroin he thought he was carrying. As he did so, he activated the detonator which caused smoke to pour out of the suitcase. Security guards were immediately alerted and the plot uncovered.

A Madrid judge yesterday ordered the imprisonment of two men arrested in a bombing at Madrid's airport last week, police said.

Immediately after the explosion, police arrested Manuel Jalafah, the owner of the suitcase which exploded. Police said Jalafah later identified Nassir Hasan al-'Ali, a Palestinian carrying a Syrian passport, as the person who had paid him to carry the bag.

Jalafah, a Canary Islander of Syrian descent, also appeared before the judge, who ordered both men imprisoned until today, when another hearing is scheduled.

It was not known what charges would be filed against the two men.

A government spokesman said police were seeking members of an extremist Palestinian group, the Fatah Uprising, believed to have assisted Al-'Ali.

Rabin on Syrian Involvement

TA041749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Speaking in Tel Aviv today Defense Minister Rabin again said that the terrorist who tried to blow up the El Al airliner flying from Madrid had received his instructions from Damascus. Speaking to the Engineers Society he said that the terrorist came from Syria on a Syrian passport, belonged to the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] organization, which could not operate without Syrian permission, and had received telephone instructions from Damascus for the attack.

On another issue Rabin said that Israel's domestic economic situation was more threatening to the Lavi fighter plane project than U.S. opposition. He said that the policy of freezing the shekel while allowing wages to rise had cut the real value of American aid for the Lavi by 25 percent. At the same time the defense minister said there were some people in the United States who wanted to exploit the situation to force Israel to buy an American-built combat plane.

Labor Bureau Votes Against Peres on Shin Bet Affair

TA031900 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] The Labor Party Bureau this evening failed to reach a clear decision in favor of establishing a judicial commission of inquiry in the Shin Bet affair. This despite the fact that in the session — which was very stormy — there were vehement calls for setting up such a commission. Minister Shahal even demanded that such a decision be made before the High Court of Justice rules on the issue. The prime minister asked the members of the bureau to avoid a decision until the court ruling is given. Our party affairs correspondent Dan Raviv reports:

[Begin recording] [Raviv] The prime minister did not want a discussion and a decision in the party bureau regarding the Shin Bet affair until after the legal proceedings are over. The members of the bureau wanted such a discussion and imposed their will on Peres in two votes. The prime minister found himself in the minority on this issue, when even ministers who were present voted against him. The sharpest verbal exchange took place between Prime Minister Peres and former Justice Minister Tzadoq. Tzadoq accused the prime minister of making a deal and of dubious maneuvering on that night which Tzadoq called a black night. The prime minister said these accusations are libel. Peres reiterated again and again that he wants to avoid any decisions in the bureau and the Cabinet until after the High Court of Justice rules on the issue. After the stormy session it transpired that members of the Labor Party Bureau, which includes ministers such as Ya'aqobi, Shahal, and Navon, as well as Knesset members, are unwilling to let go of the issue. These people demand a judicial inquiry:

[Shahal] I do not know who is guilty. I am not one of those who says that Shamir is guilty or that the Shin Bet director is guilty. In my opinion it is essential from the security point of view, and in order to preserve the principles of secrecy and fair play, that we decide today whether there is room to establish a commission of inquiry on the basis of the commission of inquiry law, this as the only solution, in my view, which enables us to hold a fair discussion, which at the same time would preserve security and secrecy, and which would protect all those concerned in the affair. [end recording]

Herut Supports Shamir

TA031922 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] The Herut Party Secretariat this evening decided to support Shamir in his stand concerning the Shin Bet affair. The Secretariat convened in Tel Aviv this evening. However, the television crew was not allowed to film the session. Following the session Knesset Member Yoram Aridor, chairman of the Secretariat, answered the question of our political correspondent Yig'al Goren regarding Shamir's reaction to the Shin Bet director's stand:

[Begin recording] [Aridor] To the best of my knowledge the vice prime minister is being viciously libelled, and as he himself explained, he is abstaining from a reaction because of security considerations. He will react in a way which will not harm our security.

[Goren] Sir, do you believe that in light of the recent political developments — as you put it, the vicious libel — it is possible to preserve the national unity government in its present form?

[Aridor] The most important thing is to preserve this government, and at the same time reject the libel with disgust. [end recording]

Shamir, Shalom Stories Differ

TA060740 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by Yosi Melman and Tova Tzimuqi]

[Excerpt] Confidants of Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir have been holding contacts over the past few days with the head of the Shin Bet and his aides in an attempt to bring about a reconciliation because of the contradictory versions about the events of the No 300 bus.

Davar has learned that it was because of Shamir's version, which contradicts the story told by the Shin Bet head, that great tension mounted in the relations between the two men, and attempts are now being made to straighten out these contradictions.

Shamir's confidants told *Davar* they believe that in the end Avraham Shalom will explain to the court his request for a pardon from the president, in which he wrote that everything he did was "with authority and permission," so that no damage to then-prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, will result.

Investigations Body Formed

TA071125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] The vice prime minister is aware of the foulups that have occurred between the political and operational echelons in the field of intelligence, which took the form of the Shin Bet and Pollard affairs. Mr Shamir thinks supervision in this field could be increased and the Cabinet has decided to establish an investigations committee for this purpose. At noon Minister Shamir met with members of the spokesmen's union of the government ministries and his remarks have been reported by our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami.

[Begin recording] In his opening words, the vice prime minister tried to make a statement on the Shin Bet affair and begged his listeners not to ask any questions on this. The Shin Bet affair, Yitzhaq Shamir said, should be dropped from the public agenda immediately.

[Shamir] It is causing damage. Every additional report, every additional exaggeration, every additional lie, and, in my view, to my regret, many lies and slanders are being published on this issue. We must find solutions to the problems that have arisen in connection with this affair, within an internal framework which is as secret as possible. Any public treatment of the matter causes damage, it is jeopardizing the security tool which is one of the most important tools we have. Let us stop scratching this scab.

[Ben-'Ami] Shamir thinks the witch hunt around the Shin Bet must be stopped, but he is aware of the cracks emerging between the political and intelligence, operational levels on the Shin Bet affair, just as, for instance, there are in the Pollard affair. This is a well-known and existing problem, Shamir said.

[Shamir] From time to time there are foulups in this field in many of the world's countries and we must take note of this, always try to improve, be more sophisticated, correct, and increase supervision. This constitutes a particular problem because of the special nature of these services and I also think that the president made a wise recommendation, and this is how the Cabinet received it, to establish a committee in the near future to go deeply into this issue and recommend ways to improve or increase or reinforce this supervision. [end recording]

Officials Meet With PRC Minister at Rome Conference

TA031750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Simha Dinitz, Israel's representative to the International Peace Conference in Rome, and Eytan Ron, Israel's ambassador in Italy, met at the conference with the PRC's minister of state. [as heard] The substance of their talk was not disclosed, but Knesset Member Simha Dinitz told our correspondent in Rome, Yosi Bar, that the talk was very friendly.

Attending the conference are two representatives from the territories: former Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah, and Hatim Abu Ghazalah from Gaza. They arrived at the conference in Mr Dinitz' car, and were introduced as members of the Israeli delegation.

The conference is being attended by representatives of dozens of countries. They are discussing ways to promote peace in areas of tension, including the Middle East.

Foreign Ministry on Chinese Presence in UNIFIL

TA060740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0345 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The Israeli Government is not troubled by the arrival in Lebanon of 200 Chinese soldiers who will join the United Nations forces. A source in the Foreign Ministry says that the UN force has always had soldiers from countries which do not have diplomatic relations with Israel. The same source commented that Israel has nothing to say concerning the matter.

However, in Jerusalem the arrival of the Chinese soldiers is interpreted as a new signal from Beijing demonstrating its interest in fulfilling an active role in foreign matters. A Chinese Foreign Ministry official recently visited Lebanon and it is reported that the director general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry is planning to visit Beijing.

Commercial Attache To Be Sent to Hong Kong

TA060745 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 5

[Report by Tzvi Zerahya]

[Text] During the course of the coming year Israel is to send a commercial attache to Hong Kong. This was reported at the end of last week by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ari'el Sharon at a meeting with members of the Israel-Asia Chamber of Commerce.

He said the Asian market should now be a target for an increase in Israeli exports and his Ministry has worked out a plan on this topic, the main point of which is to quadruple exports within 3-5 years.

"The Asian market, from the aspect of its scale, constitutes a potential as large as the U.S. market in its scope, orders, number of purchasers, and its level. However, Israeli exports to that target have not to date been increased to any considerable extent," Sharon said.

Israel currently has commercial attaches in the Far East in Japan and Singapore and it has now been decided to appoint another attache to Hong Kong in order to expand the commercial links with that target.

Minister Sharon refrained from specifically mentioning the name of China as a target for the increase of exports. However, it appears that despite the minister's nonreference to China, one of the reasons for the appointment of an attache to Hong Kong is its geographical proximity to that target in which Israeli elements are showing great interest.

Syrian Troops in Beirut 'Change in Status Quo'

TA070701 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Report by Middle East staff and agencies]

[Excerpt] Beirut — Syria's troop deployment in West Beirut at the weekend seemed designed to bolster the Shi'ite Amal militia in its battle to break the PLO's grip on local Palestinian refugee camps, Western observers said here yesterday.

The observers added the Syrian moves were similar to those that preceded in the 1976 Tall al-Za'tar episode in which the Syrians killed hundreds of PLO fighters during the initial stages of the Lebanese Civil War.

Well-informed Israeli sources said last night that it was too early to react to the Syrian deployment of an estimated 200 to 500 crack troops, because of conflicting reports over the size of the contingent and its positions.

The IDF spokesman said Israel regarded the introduction of Syrian troops into Beirut as a change in the status quo that had existed since the Israel Defence Forces withdrew from the Lebanese capital in 1982 [year as published], the IDF spokesman said last night.

The IDF was closely monitoring the situation to see what would develop, the spokesman said.

'Sources' Confirm Syrian Pullout From Mashgharah

TA031739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Israeli military sources have confirmed that Syrian commandos have pulled out of the town of Mashgharah, 10 km north of the security zone in south Lebanon. However, they say the Syrians are continuing to work on fortifications in the southern Al-Biqa' Valley and to support terrorist attacks from Lebanon against Israel.

IDF Kills 'Terrorist' in S. Lebanon Security Strip

TA031511 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Our correspondent in the north reports that a terrorist was killed in a clash with IDF soldiers in the security strip of southern Lebanon last night.

35 Terrorist Attacks Thwarted Since Lebanon Pullout

TA041252 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] The killing of the terrorist in the southern Lebanon security strip yesterday brings to 35 the number of squads that have been intercepted by our forces on their way to carry out attacks against the security strip or trying to penetrate the defense fence since the IDF pulled out of Lebanon a year ago.

The terrorist was killed early yesterday morning after an IDF unit noticed suspicious movement and opened fire at it. Searches conducted several hours later led to a body, a communications device, and other equipment.

Most of the squads that attempted to carry out attacks reached southern Lebanon from the area controlled by the Syrians in Al-Biqa', not from the Tyre or Sidon refugee camp areas, where fighters from the various Palestinian organizations are continuing to establish and strengthen their hold.

One of the commanders of the DFLP squad whose attack was prevented by the IDF was a graduate of a Soviet university. This was disclosed in a tour held by military reporters in southern Lebanon yesterday.

Basic Training Course in the Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL]
There have not been any desertions from the ASL in the past 8 months, and it now numbers 2,600 troops, of which one-quarter are Muslims, and the majority is Shi'ite. The ASL has recently started another basic training course with 60 new recruits, most of whom are Shi'ites and Druze.

One of the more interesting developments in southern Lebanon is the cooperation between Amal and Hizballah, which is founded on the Amal leadership's acknowledgement of its inability to weaken the security strip.

Terror Infrastructure in Lebanon Described

TA041347 Tel Aviv BAMAHANE in Hebrew 2 Jul 86 p 5

[Report by Hayim Raviv]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has recently disclosed that over 20 terrorists who were released in the prisoner exchange deal with Ahmad Jibril's organization have been recaptured by the military authorities. The minister did not say what "is happening" today with the other terrorists who were released at the time, but the assessment is that many of them, including Jibril's nephew, Murad (Bashniyak), returned to terrorist activity.

Since the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon, a little over a year ago, Jibril's organization has shown increasing involvement in the Lebanese turmoil and is trying to reestablish itself in southern Lebanon. The organization today numbers about 800 terrorists. Its command is located in the Damascus area, and other offices and training bases are spread throughout Syria. Ahmad Jibril's organization, the PFLP-GC, is one of the outstanding, although not the most prominent, organizations which make up the "Palestinian Salvation Front" in Lebanon.

The "Salvation Front" today numbers about 6,000 terrorists who are deployed in five regions: in the Tripoli area in the north, in the Jabal Lubnan area, in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', in the Sidon area, and in the Beirut area (in addition to this there are about 2,500 terrorists, of 'Arafat's group, in Lebanon). All in all, these figures amount to half the number of forces the terrorists had in Lebanon on the eve of the Peace for Galilee War about 4 years ago.

Hizballah Using Sagger Missiles Against ASL

TA060710 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] The Hizballah organization has recently been using Sagger antitank missiles against tanks from the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] in the eastern sector of the southern Lebanon security strip.

The Shi'ite organization's use of these missiles constitutes a substantive change in the type of weapons being used against the ASL. These antitank missiles, which were responsible for severe damage to IDF tanks in the Yom Kippur War and, to a certain extent, in the Lebanon war, as well, are made in the Eastern Bloc. It is not yet clear how these missiles reached the Hizballah, but they may have been given to the organization by Iran, or else they were purchased on the free weapons market in Lebanon. It is feared that the use of the Sagger missiles will also spread to other sectors of the security strip.

Fatah Establishing Base in S. Lebanon

TA060830 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 2

[Report by 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Text] Travelers who recently visited the security strip have reported that a Fatah base has been in the organizational stages in the village of Al-Nabatiyah on the border of the security zone.

Our correspondent points out that prior to the Lebanon war Al-Nabatiyah and the heights surrounding it were an important stronghold for the Fatah organization. If the reports really turn out to be true the Fatah base now being organized in Al-Nabatiyah is the most southerly point the organization has managed to grasp since the Lebanon war.

Lahd Permitting Relatives' Visits to Al-Khiyam

TA041216 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 4 Jul 86 p 3

[Report by Avi Benayahu]

[Text] General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon, recently began implementing the arrangement reached with the International Red Cross [IRC] to allow visits by relatives of the 200 security detainees at the Al-Khiyam camp.

According to the arrangement, relatives residing outside the security strip arrive at the detention installation accompanied by IRC personnel.

Gen Lahd had thus far refused to grant visitation rights to the families of the 200 detainees despite prolonged and heavy pressure by the IRC and other bodies.

New S. Lebanon Port Controlled by ASL

TA060900 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 8

[Report by Ya'ir 'Amiqam]

[Text] A new port controlled by the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] and serving cargo boats as a transfer point for goods entering and departing is working in southern Lebanon, south of Al-Naqurah.

The port was erected about 2 years ago with the financial backing of the ASL and engineering and operational aid from the IDF. The port's commander, Lieutenant Hayim, said yesterday that at least four cargo ships are already taking advantage of the port to carry goods between the area of southern Lebanon and Beirut, and even further northward. To date goods worth about a million dollars have passed through the port.

Most of the goods going to Beirut are bricks, water melons, avocados, butter, cigarettes, and whisky. The goods entering are mineral water, liquor, preserves, cement, and iron.

Jewish Underground Members Returning to IDF

TA060910 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 pp 1, 9

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] People found guilty of belonging to the Jewish Underground who were released after having served prison sentences have been reincorporated in command positions in reserve units, despite the statements published that they would not be returned to the IDF because of their past.

It seems that despite Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's decision to hold up the incorporation of pilot Ya'aqov Henman in the Air Force flight school, others of those found guilty have already been incorporated in IDF command positions, despite their roles in the underground affair.

Uri Me'ir, whose sentence was reduced by the president as a result of a recommendation for clemency by former Justice Minister Moshe Nisim, has been appointed commander of a command battalion in the special defense unit on the Golan Heights. Ze'ev (Zembish) Friedman has gone back to commanding a division in the Tank Corps, in the same unit he served in in the past. Avino'am Katri'eli, who completed serving his sentence, is serving as divisional commander in reserves. Bo'az Nahman was invited to a rearguard NCO's course, in spite of the fact that his settlement in the Golan Heights was instructed not to permit him to bear weapons and he must not be given guard duties.

Bo'az Henman told *Ma'ariv*: "I have no objections to doing military reserve duties, but it is inconceivable that on the one hand I am denied the right to bear weapons for self-defense because I was found guilty of security offenses and, on the other, I am to be called up for reserves duties."

"If they want us in the army they will have to first find us innocent of the charge of membership in a terrorist organization and recognize the fact that we did not act against the security of the state," Bo'az Henman said.

Last night the IDF spokesman reported that the matter would be examined by the authorized elements and their reaction is awaited.

Knesset Funds Golan, Jordan Valley Settlements

TA031125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Excerpt] The Knesset Finance Committee has approved the allocation of 27 million new shekels for settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley and on the Golan Heights. In an upcoming meeting the committee will also discuss the defrayal of debts incurred by these settlements, debts amounting to approximately 220 million new shekels.

Foreign Ministry: No More Meetings With USSR Envoys

TA060925 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 3

["Exclusive" report from Paris by Gid'on Kouts]

[Text] The Israeli Foreign Ministry has instructed Israel's diplomatic representatives throughout the world not to initiate any more meetings with Soviet representatives. This has been learned by the *Davar* correspondent. The instruction followed optimistic reports published by circles close to the prime minister and the World Jewish Congress this year about the chance of a mass exodus of Jews from the Soviet Union and in the wake of leaks about meetings with Soviet representatives.

Knowledgeable U.S. sources have told *Davar* that the "Soviet Union will be forced to permit the exit of some tens of thousands of Jews if Gorbachev wants to meet with President Reagan." According to the sources, the issue was raised at talks between the two sides and the Soviet ruler is aware of the fact that he will not be able to go to the United States without a suitable gesture being made.

The Soviet authorities have again refused to allow Israeli correspondents to accompany French President Francois Mitterrand on his visit to Moscow next week, along with other foreign correspondents. The Soviet refusal came after Soviet diplomats in Paris — with the intervention of the French presidential press services — had encouraged the Israelis to submit visa requests and commented that such a request would have a good chance of being granted, among other reasons, "because of the visit to the Soviet Union of an Israeli physician who helped rescue the victims of the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl."

It is assumed in Paris that the change in the Soviet approach has also been caused by the fact that their hopes of a "quiet visit" from the aspect of putting forward the topic of the prisoners of Zion have been dashed.

South African Officials, Choirs To Visit

TA060705 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] A white South African choir and a black choir from the South African protectorate of Bophuthatswana are to appear in Israel, and the Israeli Chamber Orchestra is to go for a round of performances in South Africa. This is upon the recommendation of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

The choirs are to participate in the 14th Zimriyah [song festival] performances that are to begin next week in Bet Berl [cultural and study center]. Senior Foreign Ministry sources have asked the Zimriyah's organizers to play down the performance by the all-white boys' choir and especially that of the choir from the protectorate which not one Western country, and this includes Israel, has recognized.

It has been learned that the president of Bophuthatswana, who was appointed by the white South African Government, will be among the people accompanying the choir. At the request of the Foreign Ministry the visiting president will not be afforded any special treatment. The Foreign Ministry itself will ignore the president and nobody will receive him at the airport.

The organizers of the Zimriyah appealed to Shamir before he had responded to the appeals of the choirs from South Africa and its protectorate. Shamir responded favorably and, according to the Zimriyah manager, Ester Herlitz, it was decided that there is no room to mix music and politics. It has been learned that following appeals by leaders of the Jewish community in South Africa, Shamir has also recommended that the Israeli Chamber Orchestra go on a tour of performances in South Africa.

The South African deputy foreign minister is to come to Israel in the near future on a visit described as a private one. Deputy Foreign Minister Knesset Member Roni Milo will host him to a luncheon, but it has been decided that not one of the ministers will meet with the visitor and the Foreign Ministry will not hold any working meetings with him, apart from one with the ministry's general supervisor.

Israel 'Concerned' Over Netherlands-Saudi Arms Deal

TA031037 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Israel is concerned in view of the Netherlands Government's plan to sign a deal for the sale of six modern submarines to Saudi Arabia. This week the Foreign Ministry instructed the ambassador in The Hague to inquire about the specifics of the deal. The official Netherlands reaction stated that Saudi Arabia is not in a de facto state of war with Israel. Unofficially, however, the Netherlands argued that they cannot afford to forsake a deal worth dozens of millions of dollars. They pointed out that there is no reason why the Netherlands should stay away from deals with Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia while other European countries compete for them. It has been reported that the negotiations between the Netherlands and the Saudis are in an advanced stage and Jerusalem foresees a tough diplomatic struggle on this subject.

Iranian Jews To Be Recruited, Sent to Front

TA031842 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 3 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by David Golan]

[Text] Two thousand boys from the Iranian Jewish community will be forced to enlist in the Iranian Army shortly and will be sent to the front against Iraq. This follows a new directive from the Iranian authorities who are trying to add thousands of new soldiers to the war effort.

The Iranian Government is demanding that the Jewish community hand over within a short time a list of names of 2,000 boys between 12-20 years of age, who are to be sent to the front. This new demand comes as a result of a severe shortage of fighters in the Iranian Army. The age of enlistment in the Army in Iran was recently lowered to 12.

Since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war Jewish youngsters have avoided army service. Now the authorities plan to apply to them the recruitment laws, which are binding on the entire population.

There is great anxiety among Israelis of Iranian extraction following the new directives.

A high-level Israeli source who spoke with the *Hadashot* correspondent yesterday confirmed the information regarding the recruitment of Jews into the Iranian Army.

Treasury Recommends Against Devaluation of Shekel

TA031641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Treasury officials have decided that at present there is no room for devaluing the shekel. The issue was discussed on the basis of a recommendation submitted by the Treasury Budget Department. However, the officials expressed concern about the large increase in imports of consumer goods in the last few months and the growing demand in the local market.

E. Jerusalem Papers May Close for Terrorist 'Links'

TA070920 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] An East Jerusalem newspaper and magazine were warned yesterday that they might face closure because of alleged links with a Palestinian terrorist organization.

The *Al-Mithaq* newspaper and *Al-Ahd* magazine were notified by Refa'el Levi, Jerusalem District representative in the Interior Ministry, that he was considering closing them because they were "directed and operated" by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, headed by George Habash.

Representatives of the publications were ordered to appear next week at Levi's office to answer the charges.

The warning was the latest in a series of recent measures against East Jerusalem newspapers. Distribution of the papers was twice delayed last week by the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration over suspected violations of censorship.

New Hebrew Palestinian Newspaper Launched

TA040608 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Jul 86 p 4

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpts] Ziyad Abu Ziyad, the East Jerusalem journalist and lawyer, is a man with a mission. His latest creation, a Hebrew-language Palestinian newspaper, is a vehicle through which he hopes to improve Israeli understanding of the Palestinians.

The bi-weekly paper is called *Gesher* (*Bridge*) and it's to be distributed today for the second time in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv after its pilot edition hit the newsstands a fortnight ago.

One thousand copies of the tabloid are to be distributed, though Abu Ziyad says he has encountered some difficulty in getting Jewish newspaper vendors to carry the paper on their racks. "Only two agreed to take the paper when it first appeared, and one of them put it on a bottom shelf, explaining that he didn't want problems. Some vendors told me they were worried they might be beaten up, something I didn't hear, three years ago when we distributed the Hebrew language edition of *Al-Fajr*."

Gesher is divided into a number of sections: news from the territories and the Arab world; special features, including translations form the Arabic press abroad, a culture section; and translations from the local Palestinian press. News from the territories focuses mainly on Israeli security measures in the areas, including land expropriations, and demolition of houses.

Features in the first issue covered living conditions in the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, Arab student life at the Hebrew University, layoffs of foreign workers in the Arab oil states and translated interviews with PLO leaders. The culture section featured reviews of Arabic studies and journals on Palestinian history, art and literature, as well as reviews of Palestinian novels and poetry.

Today's edition includes special features on Palestinian literature after the Lebanon war, the status of women in Egypt, and the debate in the Arab world on whether to reabsorb Oriental Jews were they to decide to leave Israel.

The purpose of *Gesher* is to "enable Israelis to learn first-hand what is happening in the occupied territories," according to the paper's first editorial.

"The Israelis' stereotypes can be changed by enabling Israelis to get to know the human side of the Palestinian people, Palestinian culture, folklore, and Arab society in general," the editorial continues.

Politically, the paper supports a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

Since the ideal of a binational state is presently impossible, there must be "two states for two peoples, who will learn to live as neighbours in mutual respect," says the editorial.

Abu Ziyad's editorial is published in both Hebrew and Arabic, to refute critics who have charged thqt his moderate statements in Hebrew are not matched in his Arabic writing. He says the paper has been well received by his Arab colleagues.

The paper is currently running on a shoe-string budget. Its staff of three Arabs and three Jews work in a sparsely furnished suite of rooms in East Jerusalem. Abu Ziyad says funding for the paper comes mainly from his own pocket, though he hopes to cover his expenses by increasing sales. "Both Arab and Israeli advertisers prefer to advertise in the more largely circulated Hebrew press, and they are unlikely to place ads in *Gesher* unless it increases its circulation," he says.

He hopes that, by publishing stories which will attract the Israeli reader, including articles by Israeli contributors, he can increase interes in the paper. "The main idea is to show that we can publish a good, interesting paper," he says. " This can make *Gesher* viable."

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Ordered To Rest Completely for 2 Weeks

LD051239 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1227 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The presidential palace has issued the following statement: Doctors have ordered Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, to rest completely for 2 weeks for medical reasons.

Treated for Slipped Disc

LD052351 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] It has become clear to the team of doctors who examined Chadli Benjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, in the light of medical examinations and x-rays, that President Chadli Benjedid is suffering from sciatica as a result of a slipped disc. Medical treatment is being given and improvement is occurring normally.

[Signed] Lt Col Ibrahim 'Askar, neurologist
Prof Marcel Francis Cahn, joint specialist
Prof Izzeddine Darhoumi, radiologist
Dr Idris Tari Ahmad

Undergoes 'Successful Operation'

LD071232 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Jul 86

[From the headlines]

[Text] Within the framework of the natural improvement of the state of health of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, he underwent a successful operation this morning.

LIBYA

Military Officers Pledge Loyalty to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD061619 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, Shahwal 30, Shahr Nasser 6, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution and supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces yesterday met with many revolutionary officers from various sections of armed units.

A revolutionary officer read out a document of pledge text [as received] as follows:

Brother leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution and supreme commander of the Great Libyan Arab Armed Forces, Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, the symbol which embodies the dignity of this nation and greatness, the initiator of its glory and realiser of its unity and hopes for life.

We have seen for ourselves the effects of the perfidious, Atlantic, savage and barbaric action spearheaded by America and its mad dog, Mosad agent and Zionist dog Reagan against your life and that of your family.

Using such a great number of jets in their raid against you in reality means glory and eternality of your person and shame to 150 million Arabs who sold dignity and ignored Palestine. The rancorous jets while on their way to your house left behind them more than 4 Arab countries and 70 million Arabs. This treacherous cowardly barabaric attack on your house, showering it with destructive bombs of hatred, left a lasting picture in our memory and we will never forget it until we revenge our dignity and honour.

We witness to the world that we are bound to reply (?with) force, violence and without responsibility against those perfidious acts after America adopted the open policy of official terrorism and we will (?be) responsible for the consequences of this reply.

The inferno which was poured on your residence, in a bid to finish you, represented an immoral and vile lowlessness and closed the way for any possibility of understanding with the dirty Reagan government, made us more determined and committed than ever to confront the 10th crusaders campaign increasing our fighting capability, fasten [as received] the establishment of people's army asserting people's authority and publicise the revolution so as to realise our national aspiration for unity and liberation.

Everyone knows, O great leader, that finishing you is finishing the existence of this nation and finishing our just [word indistinct] of unity and liberation. It would have been a lasting and eternal downfall and total destruction of all aspects of life.

O leader the direct attack on you fosters your leadership role of this nation. You are the man of this nation who forced America to leave the Arab homeland and proves that you are the live conscience of this nation. It is a great honour to your person where America conducts open aggression against you amassing the most sophisticated war equipment to pour cowardly, shamefully and stupidly, advanced destructive bombs on your house by American cowboys.

We say to them we are all Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi. We embody you in existence, deeds, sincerity and victory. God bless and protect you.

To you glory and eternity
To them shame and disgrace

Al-Fatih forever, the revolutionary struggle continues.

MAURITANIA

Ould Taya Cited on Return From ECOWAS Summit

AB021910 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Colonel Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, returned to Nouakchott late this morning from Abuja [in Nigeria] where he took part in the ninth ECOWAS summit. On his arrival, he was welcomed at the foot of his executive jet by Lieutenant Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the CMSN and minister of interior who was charged with running day-to-day business during the head of state's absence. Also welcoming the head of state were Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Deh, member of the CMSN, governor of Nouakchott, and chairman of the Regional Commission for the Promotion of Mass Education, and members of the civil and military offices of the head of state.

After listening to the national anthem played by the national brass band and inspecting the guard of honor, Col Ould Taya greeted the members of the CMSN and the government, as well as many other dignitaries who had come to welcome him.

In a statement to the national press, the head of state said: I have just returned home from Nigeria where I attended the ninth ECOWAS summit which was held from 30 June to 2 July 1986. During the summit, which took place under excellent conditions, there was a clear determination to work toward the economic integration of the states of the subregion and to turn the community into an efficient tool for this purpose. For this reason, important decisions were made touching on the life of the organization. I am convinced that under the chairmanship of Major General Ibrahim Babangida, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and commander in chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces, the ECOWAS will go through important stages in line with the hopes which our peoples have placed in it.

During the summit, I also held talks with all my colleagues and brother heads of state present at the summit on the bilateral relations existing between our countries and on the means to strengthen these relations as well as on matters of common interest. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to Maj Gen Babangida, the Federal Government, and the brotherly Nigerian people for the warm welcome and the particular attention which my delegation and I enjoyed during our stay in Abuja.

OAU's Ide Oumarou Arrives for Visit

AB050846 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
0730 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Summary from poor reception] Ide Oumarou, the OAU secretary general, arrived in Nouakchott yesterday afternoon. He was welcomed by the minister of foreign affairs, Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih. They later held the first round of their talks.

Meets President Ould Taya

AB051642 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
1430 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Summary from poor reception] "Colonel Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state, granted an audience this morning to the OAU secretary general, Ide Oumarou, who arrived in Nouakchott yesterday." After the audience which was attended by the prime minister, the OAU secretary general made a statement:

[Begin Ide Oumarou recording] "I have just been received by the head of state." We spoke of the current problems, and the activities of the OAU. We also spoke of the upcoming summit of the OAU and the recent UN special session devoted to the economic problems of the continent. [end recording]

Speaks to Press After Meeting

AB061945 Paris AFP in French 0804 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Jul (AFP) — Mauritanian head of state Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya received OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou on Saturday, with whom he discussed the outcome of the recent international meetings on Africa in New York and Paris, and preparations for the forthcoming OAU summit scheduled to take place at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) at the end of July.

Speaking after the meeting, Ide Oumarou said: "The OAU will prove that a decisive turning point has been reached on the continent through the efforts of African states themselves." The OAU secretary general also said that he was informed by Col Taya of Mauritania's efforts toward achieving self-sufficiency in food production, adding that these efforts have exceeded the targets fixed by the OAU in the framework of the food battle, that is, that each country should invest 20 to [word indistinct] percent of its public funds in agriculture.

The OAU secretary general was expected to leave Nouakchott on Saturday evening. He is currently on an African tour in the framework of the Organization's forthcoming summit.

MOROCCO

Official Source Denies Marcos To Seek Rabat Asylum

LD050926 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0910 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Rabat, 5 Jul (MAP) — An official source in Rabat stated yesterday that the reports carried by some Philippines papers to the effect that former President Ferdinand Marcos may seek political asylum in Morocco and that a member of his family may already have gone to Rabat from Hawaii are completely unfounded.

SUDAN

Al-Mahdi Delivers Government Policy Statement

JN071128 Khartoum SUNA in English 1050 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, July 7 (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi today said his government will abide by recommendations of the national conference over reforming the country's economic path.

Al-Mahdi, in his statement underlining the policies of his cabinet before the elected Constitutent Assembly today, affirmed that the government will replace the current legislation in the country with other new laws.

The government will commit itself to the charter of popular uprising he said, referring to the charter adopted by the political parties on the heels of the ouster of former President Numayri in April 1985. As well, the government will cling to the charter of defence of democracy which had been adopted by the uprising forces.

Defending democracy charter had been designed to prevent military coup or toppling of elected government. The charter stipulated staging of civil disobedience throughout the country as soon as the elected democratic government would be menaced by any form of coup.

The efforts of the cabinet will be directed for the success of the long-awaited constitutional conference, Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi voiced in his statement today.

He said the south Sudan question should be solved through a serious business-like dialogue. Cementing his argument with the Peace Ministry created by the cabinet, he argued that the constitutional conference would be held without preconditions.

He further enumerated the negative effects of the war on the citizens and the economy of the country as well. Meanwhile the premier affirmed that the Armed Forces will be equiped and boosted to repulse any aggression backed by or emerging from another state. He said violence is no more justifiable since the election of the new government.

He went on to say that complementary elections will be held in ten constituencies in the south. Elections were postponed in these constituencies last April for security reasons.

The prime minister told the assembly that his administration will also replace the current system of regionalism with another system coping with the concept of democracy. Regional governors will be appointed from the parties that constitute the government, he said.

The laws of the people's local government will be amended, he added.

Al-Mahdi said the state of emergency which is imposed in the country will be lifted gradually.

Turning to the economic crisis, the prime minister said the recommendations of the national economic conference of last March will be adopted for reforming the economy.

The premier admitted that Sudan's foreign debt accumulated during Numayri reign reached a record of 13.3 billion Sudanese pounds the central banks indebtedness is 7.7 million pounds [as received], [words indistinct]

The importation of non-essential items will be halted, he said. The banking system will be reformed the deficit financing practices [words indistinct].

On Sudan's foreign relations, the premier said his government will adopt establishing of relations based on peace and justice principles.

Opening his statement with the disasterous impact of the policies of the ousted president regime, Al-Mahdi said May regime has completely undermined the country national economy. The debts of individual in Sudan amount to 2,254 Sudanese pounds, he added.

Al-Mahdi, said the ousted President Numayri had amputated hands of weak citizens thinking that the amputation of hundreds of hands will decrease the rate of crimes, referring to the Moslem sharia (legislations).

The interim period, following the victory of April 6 popular uprising Al-Mahdi said had ended successfully refuting suspicions that the Transitional Military Council will not hand over the power to the civilians.

Al-Mahdi reaffirmed that his government will eradicate, without naming them, those who bid by Islam.

The government will liquidate May defunct regime impacts in all spheres, Al-Mahdi added.

Al-Mahdi Reportedly To Meet Garang in Addis Ababa

JN071043 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jul (SUNA) — The newspaper *Al-Sahafah* published today said that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who will represent Sudan at the OAU summit scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa on 28 July, will meet there with Colonel John Garang, leader of the rebel People's Liberation Movement. The Trade Union Alliance, which recently met with Garang's movement, returned to Khartoum from Addis Ababa yesterday. The two sides agreed on the need to coordinate the relief operations and the need to intensify efforts to alleviate the effects of famine. The two sides will meet again at a later date following the government speech which will be delivered by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi today.

Attempt To Hijack Plane Coming From Baghdad Fails

JN051435 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Jul (SUNA) — A Sudanese Boeing plane was exposed to an abortive hijacking attempt while on its way from Baghdad to Khartoum. A Sudanese passenger threatened to blow up the plane if it did not head toward Israel, and asked the captain — in a written memorandum submitted to him through a stewardess — to announce the threat to the passengers, stressing that he would blow up the plane if it did not head toward the destination he had set.

The captain announced the threat to the passengers, but did not heed the threat and safely landed at Khartoum airport as scheduled. At the airport, security authorities made the necessary arrangements to meticulously search the plane and question the Sudanese passenger. It is worth mentioning that 123 passengers, most of them Sudanese, were aboard the plane.

Hijacker's Father Explains Motives

JN071103 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 7 Jul (SUNA) — The father of the Sudanese passenger who tried to hijack a Sudanese plane from Baghdad said that the reasons for the behavior of his student son, 'Awad Mustafa aged 25, were his troubled mental state following the death of his brother there and the treatment he received by the Sudanese Embassy in Baghdad and its failure to organize the death procedures. The student's father told *Al-Ayyam* newspaper published today that his son did not expect that kind of treatment from his embassy in Iraq. He indicated that his son was expelled from the embassy the moment the death procedures of his brother, who drowned in Baghdad, were completed.

DJIBOUTI

President Accepts Industry Minister's Resignation

AB061232 Paris AFP in English 1206 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Djibouti, July 6 (AFP) — Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon Sunday accepted the resignation of his industry minister, Fammy Khmed al Hag, state radio reported.

The radio gave no reason for the resignation, which it said was tendered late Saturday.

The radio said Moussa Bouraleh Robleh, minister for trade, transport and tourism, would take over as acting industry minister.

ETHIOPIA

European Tour Aimed at Constitutional Debate

AU031424 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Paris, July 3 (AFP) — Ethiopia's justice minister was meeting here Thursday with Ethiopians living in France as part of an international effort to promote debate on a draft constituion that will make the African state a Soviet-style people's republic.

Justice Minister Amanuel Amde-Michael, who arrived here Wednesday from Bonn at the head of one of six delegations sent abroad by Addis Ababa, said Thursday that the purpose of his tour was "to give Ethiopians living outside equal possibilities to make suggestions, proposals, modifications" to the document.

He said the other delegations were visiting Ethiopian communities in Eastern Europe, the United States, Cuba and Africa, and that his team would travel on to London and Rome after their Paris visit.

The draft constitution was made public last month and is to be adopted in a national referendum to be held at an unspecified date, expected to be later this year. A national debate on the document has already been held within the country.

Paris and Rome both have offices representing the main movement fighting for independence in Ethiopia's northern province of Eritrea, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, while an armed opposition movement in Tigre Province has an office in London.

While not referring directly to the opposition movements, Mr. Amde-Michael said he was "prepared to meet ... any Ethiopian in France and in the other countries."

WWe are open for the opinions of all our people, north or south," he told *Agence France-Presse.*

The draft constitution provides for representation of Ethiopia's some 90 ethnic groups in the national legislature, called the Shengo and modelled on the Supreme Soviet in the Soviet Union.

It also says the "People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia shall ensure the realization of regional autonomy" in the country, but provides no details on how such autonomy would be organized.

Mr. Amde-Michael also defended his government's controversial policy of resettling people from the drought-stricken north of the country to more fertile regions further south.

Some Western aid organizations have charged that much of the resettlement was forced and had resulted in tens of thousands of deaths.

"We do not want to leave our people to starve to death," said Mr. Amde-Michael, adding that the government was being "very careful to rectify certain shortcomings (since) in some cases mistakes or errors were made."

He also said that some Western governments, including Canada and Italy, were aiding resettlement communities, rejecting allegations that the program was aimed at collectivizing Ethiopian agriculture under the guise of battling famine.

Rebels Say Tesenei People Reject Draft Constitution

EA041045 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Tesenei: The draft constitution for Ethiopia was read to residents of Tesenei and its environs in (Selasa Aher), (Bidimo), (Kudaasher), (Adi Berber), and (Adi Hde) by WPE cadres. The briefing was held for 3 days from 17-20 June.

The people, who had been forcibly assembled by soldiers, rejected the constitution, saying that it did not represent them. The briefing on the draft constitution, which converts the dergue's provisional rule into permanent rule, was completely rejected by the Eritrean people, who are under the suppression of Dergue rule.

KENYA

'Saboteurs' Jailed for Sedition, Sabotage

EA051533 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Jul 86 p 1

[Article headlined "Nakuru Saboteurs Jailed for 61 Years" attributed to Michael Njuguna]

[Excerpt] Three members of the clandestine organization - Mwakenya - were jailed yesterday afternoon for a total of 41 and 1/2 years by a Nakuru court for sabotage, malicious damage of a railway line and distribution of seditious publications. Samuel Kangethe Mungai, a former government agricultural officer, Philip Tirop Arap Kitur, a graduate of Nairobi Universary and a former law student, and Karimi Nduthu, a former engineering student at the same university, appeared before the senior resident magistrate, Mr Isaac Wambilliangah.

In the morning, they were sentenced to other jail terms totalling 20 years after they pleaded guilty of distribnuting copies of

"Mzalendo Mwakenya", a seditious publication. The sentences are to run consecutively.

The assistant deputy public prosecutor, Mr Bernard Chunga, told the court that the three damaged six telephone posts and wires on 10th April at Molo, Nakuru. The following day, he said, they damaged 10 telephone posts and wires in Molo. On 3d and 4th June, they removed two telephone posts and pulled down wires between Gilgil and Ilkek railway stations in Nakuru, he said. The Prosecutor told the court these acts were sabotage intended to impede the working of telephone communications.

Mr Chunga said that on the eve of the last Madaraka Day (1st June), the three men maliciously damaged a railway line between Gilgil and Kariandusi in order to render the line dangerous or impassable.

Mr Chunga told the court the Mwakenya group had resolved to begin sabotage and intensify its activities, during a meeting held last April at Kisumu, after the group had realised that the government was closing in on the organisation.

In the morning the three had admitted distributing seditius publications. Mungai and Kitur were charged with distributing 150 copies each of the *"Mzalendo Mwa-Kenya"* on the night of 3rd and 4th April in Eldoret town. Nduthu was charged with distributing 100 copies of the document in Kitale town the same night.

Mwangale Leaves for Vienna Talks on Namibia

EA061345 Nairobi KNA in English 1620 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Nairobi, 05 Jul: The Minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, left Nairobi this morning for Vienna, Austria, to attend the seven-day conference on independence of Namibia. The international conference has been organized by the UN Council for Namibia.

SOMALIA

SNM Reports Attacks on Government Troops

8 Killed on 28 June

EA061651 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somali 1700 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] On 28 June 1986, the gallant fighters of the Somali National Movement, SNM, wing of the Somali opposition forces, made a surprise attack on the loyalist troops of the dictator, General Muhammad Siad Barre, stationed at (Qorijableh), Boorama district, in Awdal Region, killing 8 and wounding 12 soldiers. The attackers also destroyed one APC and a number of military trucks before returning safely to base.

A landmine laid by a commando unit of the Somali National Movement, SNM, wing of the Somali opposition forces at (Bali Gubadleh) in Hargeisa District, Northwest region, was detonated by a vehicle transporting soldiers loyal to the dying regime of Mogadishu, killing, according to reports, 17 and wounding 5 soldiers. The vehicle was completely destroyed.

12 Killed 29 Jun

EA040912 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Somali National Movement [SNM] fighters attacked enemy forces based in (Xaring Xaring), 15 km east of Hargeisa airport, killing 12 enemy soldiers and wounding 20 others. The fighting took place on 29 June. SNM fighters also destroyed an armored vehicle and an APC. The report says the enemy forces took to their heels when fighting broke out. However, the enemy forces went on a rampage the following day, 30 June, arresting many people, looting livestock, and burning homes.

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Warns Civil Service on Misappropriation

EA062019 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has expressed dissatisfaction at the performance of the civil service and parastatals manifesting itself in inefficiency and violations of financial guidelines. He said that heads of department who had misappropriated funds or caused huge losses to the government would not only be fired but would also be charged in court and, in cases of any legal justification, their property would be nationalized. Ndugu Mwinyi was addressing newsmen in Dar es Salaam today on arrival from a 1-week tour of the neighboring countries of Rwanda and Burundi. He said the misappropriations uncovered at the General Agricultural Products Export Corporation, GAPEX, were a clear indication of the laxity affecting public corporations. He warned that severe action would be taken against those concerned.

Referring to his tour of Rwanda and Burundi, President Mwinyi said it had given him an opportunity to assure the leaders of the two countries that despite the leadership changes at the top in November last year, Tanzania's internal and external policies remained unchanged. He said that during the tour he had held discussions with Presidents Jean-Baptiste Bagaza of Burundi and Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda on the importance of having a system of border trade in the interests of the three countries.

UGANDA

Relations Established With Western Sahara

EA032112 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni has received a special message from the president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, Mr Mohamed Abelaziz. The message was delivered by the SADR [Saharan Arab Democratic Republic] foreign affairs minister, Mr Mansour Omar, when he met the president at State House, Entebbe, this evening.

Mr Omar expressed his country's appreciation of the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government's achievements in Uganda and has said his country wanted to strengthen relations with Uganda and requested the establishment of diplomatic relations with Uganda.

Granting the request, President Museveni reiterated his government's desire to strengthen cooperation with all friendly countries.

AFP: Army Arrests Over 40 Obote Supporters

AB051347 Paris AFP in English 1301 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Kampala, July 5 (AFP) — The Ugandan Army arrested more than 40 people this week for suspected involvement in an underground movement working for the return of ousted President Milton Obote, local press report said Saturday.

The Roman Catholic vernacular daily *Munno* said the men, suspected of belonging to the Force Obote Back (FOBA) Movement, were arrested late Thursday at a pub in Kampala's suburb of Kisenyi and taken to the nearby Lubiri Army Barracks.

No government officials were available to comment on the *Munno* report.

Munno quoted eyewitnesses on the arrests as saying six of the suspects were former members of the Democratic Party, the main parliamentary opposition to Mr. Obote's government.

Mr. Obote was toppled in a military coup in July 1985. The junta which replaced him was in turn ousted by current President Yoweri Museveni last January.

BURKINA FASO

Charge d'Affaires in Lagos Denies Coup Rumors

AB031700 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 3 Jul 86

[From the "Insight" program]

[Text] The ninth conference of ECOWAS heads of state has ended, and the delegates have gone back to their respective countries. However, the speculations generated by the sudden departure from Abuja (?during the session) by President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso persist. It was rumored that a coup attempt had taken place in Ouagadougou, but nobody has been able to confirm this, even though the rumor added that as many as 16 lives were lost in the attempted putsch.

Following media reports yesterday, the Burkinabe charge d'affaires in Lagos, Mr Leon (Wukumbagne), called us to express his displeasure. He thought journalists should have contacted him for clarification before going to press. Correspondent Ben Egbuna used the opportunity to find out what really happened.

[Begin recording] [Egbuna] Was there a coup attempt in Burkina Faso?

[(Wukumbagne)] No. It is not true [words indistinct] I learned it from NTA [Nigerian Television Authority] news. I asked myself where NTA news got the news. I was really worried to learn this from the Nigerian newspaper review because between Nigeria and Burkina Faso relations are very, very correct and cordial. I don't know. I don't know (?where they got the news).

[Egbuna] What about the other version of the rumor that Captain Sankara had to leave Abuja because some policemen back home died in a motor accident?

[(Wukumbagne)] Since his arrival in Abuja, the president [words indistinct]. This is terrible. There has never been a coup in my country. This is not correct. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Shehu Shagari Released, Confined to Home Area

AB042215 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The Federal Government today confirmed that it has decided to transfer former President Shehu Shagari and Vice President Alex Ekwueme to their respective local government areas to live in confinement in their homes. The decision was taken by the Armed Forces Ruling Council [AFRC] and Ogie Eboigbe has the details:

[Begin recording] The confirmation came from the chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, during a brief meeting with State House correspondents at Dodan Barracks today. Following the AFRC decision, Alhaji Shehu Shagari and Dr Ekwueme are now restricted to their local government areas and their activities are being closely monitored by security agents. They are not allowed to make public statements in their confinement [words indistinct].

Alhaji Shehu is now in his home in Shagari village in Sokoto State, while Dr Ekwueme is said to be in his hometwon Oko, in Anambra State.

Asked to explain the difference between the present restriction order on the two former leaders and their previous state of detention, Commodore Ukiwe said that the government will no longer have to feed them. They now have to be responsible for their own welfare and can farm if they wish.

Yesterday, foreign radio stations announced the release of the two former political leaders, quoting top government sources. Some Nigerian newspapers also today had banner headlines on the issue. Alhaji Shehu and Dr Ekwueme have been in detention for more than 30 months. [end recording]

Ukiwe Comments

AB041538 Paris AFP in English 1447 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Lagos, July 4 (AFP) — Former Nigerian President Shehu Shagari and his deputy Alex Ekwueme have been conditionally released after 31 months of house arrest here and flown to their home villages, official sources said Friday. "They would be at their various homes by now, but under strict government conditions," one of the sources said of the former officials, whose government was toppled in a coup in December 1983.

Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, the number two man in the military government, told reporters Friday that the two former peaders were "reasonably free, but restricted to their local government" (home areas). He said there was no time frame set for the restrictions, adding that the limits on their freedom could be reviewed later. He said both men were included under a recently announced ban on all political activities or holding of political office imposed on former civilian officials.

He explained their conditional freedom as necessary to allow time to see "if more details of misdeeds against them" would emerge.

He also said that former military leaders Major-General Muhamadu Buhari and Major-General Tunde Idiagbon, whom the present regime toppled last August, were under "protective custody" and that appropriate action would be taken later concerning their cases.

Reaction to Release

AB060755 Paris AFP in English 0733 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Lagos, July 6 (AFP) — Nigerians have given a mixed reception to the release of former President Shehu Shagari and his deputy, Alex Ekwueme, last Thursday after 31 months detention since their overthrow in December 1983.

Among those welcoming their release as a politically expedient decision was George Uwechue, a former opposition legislator under Mr Shagari's rule. He said in an interview it would have been an injustice to keep them in detention when no criminal charges were proved against them.

"They committed a political offence, but no legal offence was proved," he said.

He expressed support for the recent ban on former Shagari regime politicians from holding public office for 10 years and said he favored extending it to retire top civil servants and politicians who served before Mr Shagari came to power.

Lagos lawyer Gani Fawehinmi however called the freeing of the two men "unconstitutional" and said it would be "illogical" for Nigerians to accept that their economy was ruined and to allow those who caused the ruin to go unpunished.

The country's most popular musician, Afro-beat superstar Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, an influential public figure, also criticized the government's action.

"If Mr Shagari and Mr Ekwueme are not guilty, I am interested in knowing who is guilty" from the ousted civilian regime, he told the *Guardian* newspaper in a statement published Saturday.

But Fela's lawyer, Kanmi Ishola-Oshobu, said other politicians jailed for corruption under Mr Shagari's administration should be freed also.

Mr Shagari and Mr Ekwueme were freed from house arrest and flown to their home villages — Mr Shagari in Shagari village in the northern state of Sokoto and Mr Ekwueme in Oba, in the eastern state of Anambra.

They have been restricted to these areas and barred from political activity and holding public office for 10 years.

SENEGAL

Diouf, OAU's Oumarou Hold Talks

AB041925 Dakar PANA in French 1439 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Dakar, 4 Jul (APS-SEN/PANA) — Ide Oumarou, the OAU secretary general, has expressed "his satisfaction" with the comments made by the current OAU chairman on the UN special session on the continent's critical situation, the conference on economic sanctions against Pretoria, and on the directives forthe forthcoming OAU summit which will also examine "economic problems and the situation in southern Africa."

The OAU secretary general, who held a lengthy meeting on Friday with President Diouf, also said that the next OAU summit will analyze the results of the various international meetings, and map out guidelines for the implementation of these decisions in order to prove to the world community that "Africa's ideas are serious and coherent."

Commenting on the international conference on sanctions against Pretoria, Mr Oumarou underlined that the continent's stand remains the same, and considered that "only economic sanctions could force South Africa to bow down to the will of the international community." In this regard, he expressed disappointment over the delay accorded Pretoria by the EEC before applying sanctions.

On the likelihood of the creation of an African force to fight apartheid, the OAU secretary general pointed out that it was "an old idea," and that the reports of the General Secretariat will certainly examine the "practical modalities for setting up such a force and the continent's readiness" to do so. It would be a good tool for fighting against South Africa which is taking advantage of the relative weakness of the Frontline States, he added.

Ide Oumarou also paid tribute to Senegal, to the current OAU chairman, and to the Senegalese minister of foreign affairs and chairman of the OAU Steering Committee, who are all striving to help "Africa win back its dignity."

TOGO

President Leaves for Zaire on Working Visit

AB060827 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Excerpt] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding president of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, this morning left for Kinshasa for a friendly working visit to Zaire. The head of state was seen off by members of the Central Committee.

ANGOLA

President Returns From Visit to Congo

MB031950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned home this evening after a short working visit to the People's Republic of Congo. The Angolan head of state visited the city of Pointe Noire where he met with Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Congolese Workers Party and president of the People's Republic of Congo. This visit to Congo by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos is within the framework of the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation that link our two peoples and parties. At the end of the talks with the Congolese head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that on the eve of the OAU summit, this visit led to discussion of matters concerned with liberation issues, namely the decolonization of Namibia and the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa.

Western Sahara Leader Holds Press Conference

MB030952 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1244 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Press conference by Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and Western Sahara "president," in Luanda on 1 July — recorded; Abdelaziz in Arabic with passage-by-passage translation into Portuguese]

[Text] [Abdelaziz] During our visit to Angola, we have had the opportunity to analyze in depth issues of mutual interest with Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and other members of the Angolan delegation, party, and government. We also had the opportunity to be briefed by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the current situation in this region of our continent. It was also an opportunity for us to relate the latest developments in northest Africa, about the war between the SDAR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] and the Kingdom of Morocco, and about Moroccan aggression against our country. We exchanged points of view on the situation in the African Continent in particular and on the international situation in general. We had similar points of view on the issues discussed, and we are sure that this visit will result in strengthening the friendship and solidarity between the SDAR and the People's Republic of Angola. We want to reiterate our thanks to the People's Republic of Angola, to the MPLA-Labor Party and to the Angolan president, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for the warm reception accorded to us by the Angolan people since our arrival in this free land of Angola.

[Unidentified questioner] Mr President, indirect talks between Morocco and Polisario ended in New York 2 months ago. What concrete and positive results have these talks had for the solution of the Western Saharan issue?

[Abdelaziz] As you all know, at the beginning of this year the current OAU chairman and the UN secretary general decided to launch an initiative to implement OAU Resolution 104 and UN Resolutions 40 and 50. This initiative was aimed at bringing the two conflicting parties, the SDAR and Morocco, together for direct talks to find a peaceful solution to this problem based on respect for the Western Saharan people's right to self-determination and independence and on the withdrawal of Moroccan troops and administrative personnel from Moroccan settlements in Western Sahara. In this context, our country sent a delegation to New York to start preliminary contacts aimed at bringing the two sides to the negotiating table. After two rounds of talks, one in April and another in May, unfortunately we noted that no real progress had been achieved. Thus we have to conclude that the joint initiative of the OAU chairman and UN secretary general is at this moment at an impasse caused by Morrocco's refusal to implement the OAU and UN resolutions in their entirety. By adopting this position, Morocco is refusing to implement the will of the international community in the search for a just solution to the problem in northwest Africa. Morocco thus obstructs peace in the region.

This Moroccan position is similar to the position adopted by the apartheid racist regime in its refusal to implement UN Resolution 435/78 on Namibia's independence. Thus, we see no other option than to step up our legitimate armed struggle to expel the enemy from our territory. We expect the international community to demand mandatory sanctions against Morocco, similar to those that must be imposed against the apartheid regime to force it to accept the will of the international organizations. We want to appeal from here, Luanda, capital of the People's Republic of Angola, to the international community to recognise the SDAR and to provide substantial support to the just struggle of the Saharan people, who have a legitimate and inalienable right to achieve national independence.

[Questioner] Mr President, we would like to know if the ideal of the Great Arab Maghreb can make the armed struggle of the Saharan people more difficult to wage?

[Abdelaziz] [Words indistinct] The peoples of the region want unity in order to tackle coherently social, economic, political, and other issues affecting development in the region. But there is an obstacle in the region that prevents the implementation of these objectives — Morocco's aggression toward the SDAR. There are two types of ideas in conflict: one defends the right of peoples to self-determination and independence and respect for their interests and will, and the other defends aggression against peoples, occupation of territories, and expansionism. That is why we reiterate that the creation of the Great Arab Maghreb is not and will not be viable while there is an armed conflict between Morocco and the SDAR. Thank you.

Ends Official Visit

MB030953 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and SDAR president, ended his 24-hour official visit to the People's Republic of Angola yesterday. During his stay in Angola, President Mohamed Abdelaziz held talks with the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, on issues of common interest. The talks centered on cooperation between Angola and Western Sahara, the war situation in both countries, and world issues. There was a complete identity of viewpoints in the talks, which were described as very positive by both sides.

On the situation in southern Africa and northwest Africa, both parties agreed that there was an urgent need to apply the UN and OAU resolutions on Namibia's independence and the self-determination of Saharan people to achieve peace and stability in these two regions. President Mohamed Abdelaziz spoke in favor of the intensification of the armed struggle in Western Sahara, Namibia, and South Africa, and the imposition of global sanctions by the international community, not only against the apartheid regime but also against Morocco as a form of pressure on the governments of Pretoria and Rabat which persist in their intransigent policy of aggression and expansionism.

KUP Claims UNITA Downing of MPLA Aircraft

MB040624 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 4 Jul (KUP) — A MIG-23 was shot down by UNITA's anti-aircraft guns close to Umbo River near Cangumbe in Moxico Province on 2 July. This was revealed in a communique issued by UNITA's Operations Office yesterday. The communique added that the crew members were killed when the aircraft,which was providing air cover to the MPLA's 150th Brigade, caught fire.

SADF Reportedly Continuing 'Atrocities'

MB040829 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The South African Army continues to commit serious atrocities inside the free and sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola. A report recently issued by the MPLA-Labor Party Provincial Committee in Namibe, citing authorized military sources, reveals that during the first half of this year, South African Army air-borne units landed in some areas of Namibe Province, killing dozens of civilians. Recently, other actions were noted, including South African planes overflying southern regions of the municipalities of Tombua and Virei, also in Namibe Province.

LESOTHO

Lekhanya Says Sanctions on RSA Will Hurt Country

MB060616 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and the Council of Ministers, His Excellency Major General Metsing Lekhanya, says Lesotho's attitude to economic sanctions against South Africa can only be dictated by a sense of regret at the realities attached to sanctions. In an interview with Michael Berth of the BBC, Major General Lekhanya said the government is quite aware of the devastating effects sanctions may have on Lesotho and went further to point out that should they be applied on a large scale, he hopes that the international community will exercise its responsibility towards South Africa's neighbors, whom he said would be adversely affected. Asked what the effect of the repatriation of migrant workers and the abrogation of the customs union agreement would be on Lesotho, Major General Lekhanya said this will cripple the country economically, but said that the short-and long-term goal of the military government is to restructure the country's economy to create more jobs in order to lessen the country's dependence on its neighbor.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Congratulates Reagan on 4 July

MB041111 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Samora Moises Machel, the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, today sent a message of congratulations to his counterpart Ronald Reagan on the occasion of the U.S. national day. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our desire to consolidate and deepen our relations of friendship and cooperation for the mutual benefit of our two peoples and states, the message from the Mozambican head of state said.

18 'Armed Bandits' Reported Dead, Wounded

MB031401 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Eight armed bandits have been killed and 10 others wounded in a recent operation carried out by our armed forces in the Nauela area of Alto Molocue District, Zambezia Province. The gangsters were detected by the Mozambican Armed Forces as they were about to perpetrate another crime against the residents of Mugema. Meanwhile, some 1,000 people, who have been victims of the armed bandits in Zambezia Province, are currently being assisted by the Department of Natural Disasters. Our correspondent says that those people have been sent to three camps in the Chinde, Inhassunge, and Nicuadala Districts. The assistance being provided consists of clothing, foodstuffs and tools.

MAURITIUS

AFP Reports Indian Prime Minister's Arrival

AB041239 Paris AFP in English 1222 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Port Louis, July 4 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Mauritius Friday for a two-day visit expected to be dominated by the conclusion of key financial agreements and discussions on turning the Indian Ocean area into a "zone of peace." Mr. Gandhi, at the head of a 20-member delegation, was met at the airport here by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth and senior parliamentarians and clergymen before being whisked away in an armored limousine flown here from India specially for the visit. The prime minister was due later Friday to lay a wreath at the site where former prime minister and governor general Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam was cremated last year. He was also scheduled to address the Indian Ocean island state's parliament on Saturday.

Official sources here said that during Mr. Gandhi's stay here, both countries would sign two agreements, a government-to-government credit of more than four million dollars and another credit from India's export-import bank for a further four million. Mr. Gandhi and Prime Minister Jugnauth were also expected to focus their talks on their commitment to maintaining peace in the Indian Ocean as well as the forthcoming non-aligned summit in Harare and the Commonwealth "mini-summit" on South Africa in London. Both meetings take place next month.

Addresses Parliament on Nonalignment

AB051407 Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Port Louis, July 5 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi called for a reinforcement of non-alignment in the Indian Ocean Saturday during an address to parliament here on the final day of a two-day visit to Mauritius. Mr Gandhi also signed agreements covering some 7.5 million dollars in loans from India to Mauritius, a government statement said. No details of the loans were released Saturday, though official sources said earlier that they would involve a government-to-government [words indistinct] of more than four million dollars and another credit from India's export-import bank for nearly four million dollars.

In his address to parliament, Mr Gandhi denounced the growing number of foreign warships in the Indian Ocean and reiterated his call for the region to be declared a "zone of peace" in line with a 1971 U.N. declaration to that effect. He said the non-aligned states of the Indian Ocean were being drawn against their will into a cold war that contradicted the spirit of non-alignment. Mr Gandhi also reiterated his government's support for Mauritian demands for the return of the Chagos Archipelago, which Britain administers since [words indistinct] Diego Garcia, where the United States maintains one of its largest overseas military bases.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO President Reviews Operations Against RSA

AB061735 Dakar PANA in English 1444 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Vienna, 6 July (PANA) — The morale of the Namibian people is higher than ever as the war of national liberation is now being waged with intensity inside Namibia. SWAPO President Sam Nujoma said this yesterday in Vienna on his arrival for the five-day international conference for the immediate independence of Namibia. The conference begins in the Austrian capital, Vienna, tomorrow. Nujoma told reporters that during the past three months SWAPO combatants have inflicted heavy casualties on South African troops in Namibia. Pretoria occupation troops are believed now number 100,000 in Namibia. "SWAPO's achievements on the battlefront cannot be made without the support of the Namibian people," he said. He cited the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) attack, Wednesday, on a fortified South African military base in Nkongo, northeastern Namibia as an example of SWAPO's increased offensive. In this attack 12 Boer soldiers were killed. "Such assaults by PLAN throughout the war zones are a clear signal to the ruling clique in Pretoria that SWAPO is ever ready to continue with the armed struggle until the repressive apartheid forces are totally rooted out of Namibian territory", he added. He said that SWAPO's popularity was now expanding throughout the country as the war zone was extending towards the central and southern regions of Namibia. He also said that the demonstration which took place in May, in Windhoek and other townships in Namibia, demanding the immediate implementation of UN resolution 435 of 1978, despite the state of emergency existing since 1972, indicated the Namibian people's determination to end South African occupation of their territory. The SWAPO president described the South African policy to install puppets in Namibia as a failure and misguided. "They are doing nothing substantial for the Namibian people except delaying the Namibian cause."

The president said that once Namibia attained her genuine freedom and independence under the leadership of SWAPO, the puppet political parties would die a natural death as their mission would have ended. He reiterated SWAPO's stand that it wants to create a people's government, non-racial society to be guided by the principles of positive reality. Mr Nujoma said the conference is taking place at a time when the political and military situation in Namibia is extremely critical. He described the conference as very important. "It is an expression of solidarity and support to the already ongoing military struggle inside Namibia." President Nujoma said that the conference would remind the member states of the United Nations of their responsibility towards the decolonisation of Namibia and that Namibia was still militarily occupied by the Pretoria regime.

He added that the conference would once again call upon the international community to impose comprehensive mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa as a measure to pressurise the racist regime to renounce its colonial legacy in Namibia.

Commenting on the presence of the delegates from the so-called "Contact Group" as observers to the conference, Mr Nujoma said he found it normal as they were members of the UN but expressed hope that they would this time play a positive role by supporting the call for imposing economic sanctions against the apartheid regime. The Contact Group members which include the United States, Britain, West Germany, France and Canada has a record of boycotting Namibian international conferences which are organised by the 31 members United Nations Council for Namibia. The Group became less active after the withdrawal of France when President Francois Mitterrand took power. Canada is also playing a very minimum role in the group.

President Nujoma accused the Reagan administration for sabotaging the process of decolonisation of Namibia by insisting on the linkage issue. He said the U.S. supported by West Germany and Britain has been demanding the withdrawal of Cuban troops in Angola but he said Namibians rejected this and regretted that the Reagan administration was still insisting on this.

The conference which will be held at the Vienna conference centre "Hofburg" is expected to review progress and problems in the international community's efforts to bring about Namibian independent. It will formulate concrete proposals for new initiatives aimed at the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and recommendations to accelerate the achievements of independence for Namibia. A final document containing recommendations to be placed before the General Assembly at its 41stsession will be adopted at the end of the conference.

The Council for Namibia officials say that preparations for the conference have been finalised and most of the invited delegations have arrived over the weekend ready for the opening tomorrow to be addressed by Austrian Foreign Minister Peter Jankwitsch on behalf of the host government. President of Austria Designate Kurt Waldheim is expected to address the closing session on Friday.

Court Rules SWAPO Allowed To Hold Meetings

MB041204 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1132 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Windhoek, July 4, SAPA — A far-reaching judgment by the Windhoek Supreme Court yesterday, in which it specifically upheld a bill of rights, would enable SWAPO to hold public meetings lawfully in SWA/Namibia in future, the Namibian newspaper reported today. All that would be required from the South West African People's Organisation in future was notification to a magistrate 24 hours beforehand in terms of the Notification and Prohibition of Meetings Act (1981), legal sources said.

A full bench of the Supreme Court held in a lengthy judgment that main charges be invalidated against SWAPO's acting president, Mr Immanuel Nathaniel Maxulili; SWAPO's secretary for youth, Mr Jerry Ekandjo, and the organisation's secretary for transport, Mr Frans Kambangula. They were accused of contravening the Notification and Prohibition of Meetings Act for holding an unlawful SWAPO political rally in Katutura township on April 21 last year.

In the judgment, Mr Justice Harold Levy (Mr Acting Justice Herbert Hendler and Mr Justice Ken Bethune concurring) said the meetings act prohibited public meetings by organisations which had as "its object" the violent overthrow of the existing political and constitutional dispensation in SWA/Namibia. From documents submitted to the court, including SWAPO's constitution and "political programme," it appeared "there is no statement which specifically is for or advocates or propagates the overthrow of a governemnt or some form of change by violence, intimidation or forceful means."

Mr Justice Levy said counsel for the defence, Mr Ian Farlam, SC [senior Counsel], had argued there existed a conflict between the Bill of Fundamental Rights appended to the South African State President's proclamation R101, which instituted the SWA-/Namibian transitional government, and the Notification and Prohibition of Meetings Act. The act in question, the judge said, "does make serious inroads into the liberty of the subject." Mr Farlam had urged the court to "strike down" the conflicting provisions, but, Mr Justice Levy said, if the charges themselves did not constitute offences then it was the charge sheet that had to be invalidated.

The meetings act clearly stated that an organisation to be prohibited from holding meetings should have as "its object" the violent overthrow of the existing authority. "To interpret this to mean one of its objects would be to enlarge on the provisions of the legislation and in fact to legislate," Mr Justice Levy said. Where ambiguities existed in the language of law, "the meaning which least of all interferes with the liberty of the subject must be applied to interpreted the relevant legislation."

The judge said it had been argued from time to time in various cases before the Supreme Court that the Bill of Fundamental Rights annexured to Proclamation R101 did not form part of the operative sections of the proclamation. "In view of the state president's statement I hereby make the laws set out in this schedule and in view of the fact that annexure 1 — The Bill of Fundamental Rights — is an integral part of such schedule and incorporated by virtue of the definition of the clause above (and by virtue of several other clauses) the fundamental rights are as much part of the law as any other provision in R101," he said. "It is to be hoped that this ghost has now finally been laid."

SWAPO Claims 50 Defense Force Members Killed

MB040726 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] SWAPO claims it has killed 50 South African soldiers in a recent attack, but Pretoria is denying the report. In a communique, SWAPO says that its forces carried out a surprise attack on a SADF base in northeastern Namibia. It claims the night attack on 29 June killed 50 South African soldiers and injured many more. SWATF says the attack failed utterly, and that none of the SWAPO bombs landed inside the military base. And a spokesman for the SADF has dismissed the claims as ludicrous. However, the Defense Force headquarters in Pretoria has announced the death of a member of the Venda defense force, who died in the war zone in Namibia.

Reports 12 SADF Killed 2 July

MB060600 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1743 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Harare, July 5, SAPA — The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) killed 12 South African soldiers and wounded 15 others at their base on Wednesday in northeastern SWA/Namibia, SWAPO claimed in a statement released in Harare today. ZIANA reported the statement which said SWAPO fighters heavily shelled the South African base with mortars, setting fuel depots, ammunition, several army vehicles and food storages ablaze. "These latest assaults by the combatants of plan on South African military bases throughout the war zones are a clear signal to the ruling apartheid clique in Pretoria that SWAPO is ready to continue with the armed liberation struggle with greater intensity," the statement said.

A South African Defence Force (SADF) spokesman said tonight that they had nothing to add to the SWA Territory Force statement released earlier this week which stated that: "SWAPO insurgents had launched utterly failed stand-off bombardments on military bases at Eenhana and Nlongo in northern SWA/Namibia on Sunday night and Wednesday night." It added that no enemy mortars fell in either bases, no damage was caused and there were no injuries. The spokesman said that SWAPO's "ludicrous rhetoric" is as usual no more than the "blatant distortion of reality." He added that the only successes SWAPO could claim were the "murder of innocent children and the maiming of people by the cowardly laying of landmines."

Security Forces Eliminate 3 SWAPO Insurgents

MB031928 Johanensburg SAPA in English 1924 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Windhoek, July 3, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia shot dead three SWAPO insurgents and captured a wounded insurgent in a follow-up operation early this week, the SWA Territory Force said in a statement in Windhoek today. The insurgents had abducted three civilians from Ongandjera in Ovambo on Sunday night, the statement said. A group of security forces members were ambushed shortly after the follow-up action began on Monday morning and in the ensuing shoot-out an insurgent was wounded and taken captive. The statement said tracks were followed in a northerly direction which led to an arms chache. Among the equipment destroyed by the security forces at the site were 63 61mm mortar bombs, 19 RPG-7 rockets, 18 rifle grenades, four anti-personnel mines, three landmines and 17.2kg of explosives. In a skirmish shortly afterwards, three insurgents were killed and three civilians were set free, the statement said.

In other clashes in northern SWA/Namibia, the security forces shot dead another seven insurgents, which brought to 408 the number of insurgents killed to date this year. "The security forces suffered no losses in these actions," the SWATF said.

In other incidents, SWAPO insurgents had launched "utterly failed stand-off bombardments" on military bases at Eenhana and Nkongo in northern SWA/Namibia on Sunday night and last night. "No enemy mortars fell in either of the bases," the statement said. "There was no damage caused and no-one was injured." The security forces immediately responded to the attacks which brought a swift end to the bombardments, the SWATF said. It added that a civilian, Mr Mthisas Hamunyela, was seriously injured when a vehicle detonated a landmine near Nkongo in northern SWA/Namibia last Thursday. Another civilian, Mrs Teopolina Majamba, was injured when she triggered an anti-personnel mine in the same vicinity the next day.

In Pretoria today the Bureau for Information said that defence headquarters announced that a member of the Venda Defence Force, Cpl N.G. Bhivhse, died in action against terrorists in the operational area of SWA/Namibia. A Defence Force spokesman said tonight that Cpl Bhivhse's death was in no way related to any of the incidents involving the SWATF. He also would not say where or when Cpl Bhivhse died. The spokesman said once the next of kin of a dead soldier had been notified the media was informed of the death.

SOUTH AFRICA

Bombing at Pretoria Supermarket 4 July

MB041859 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1856 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 4, SAPA — Total of 20 people were injured in an explosion outside a supermarket in Silverton, Pretoria today, the Bureau for Information said. The bureau said the explosive device was placed in a black plastic bag between two parked cars in Pretoria Road at about 5pm today. "A total of twenty people, one white man, seven white women, a seven-year old white girl, eight black men and three black women were injured in the explosion," the bureau said. Two vehicles were slightly damaged and two more seriously damaged. The window panes of Checkers, Saambou and the Milky Way were blown out, the bureau added.

Toll Set at 19 Injured

MB041938 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1937 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 4, SAPA — The Bureau for Information tonight revised the total of people injured in a blast in Silverton this afternoon to 19. The bureau said earlier that 20 people had been injured. The blast occurred at about 5 pm in Pretoria Road, Silverton. The injured, according to the bureau, are one white man, seven white women a seven-year-old white girl, six black men, three black women and one coloured woman. Earlier the bureau said one white man, seven white women, a seven-year-old white girl, eight black men and three black women were injured in the explosion.

Pik Botha Criticizes Foreign Demands for Sanctions

MB041005 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0515 GMT 4 Jul 86

[From the "Radio Today" program presented by Jeremy Dawes — recorded]

[Text] [Dawes] Sanctions against South Africa look set to last for many years. Addressing a public meeting at Witbank last night, the minister of foreign affairs said he doubted that the United States, Britain, France, and West Germany would ever again be led by leaders as conservative as those currently in power. Mr Pik Botha:

[Begin Botha recording] Now if under these conservative leaders, more punitive measures are instituted against South Africa, then the chances of these measures ever being recalled by less conservative people, those chances are very small, unless somehow they can be brought to see that it is not in their interests. There are many well-intentioned people in America, in Europe, Britain, elsewhere, who think that sanctions is an alternative to violence, and they are being terribly misled and deceived, because if sanctions lead to greater unemployment, that unemployment in turn leads to greater violence. It is a vicious circle. So those who propose and are in favor of sanctions are in effect in favor of violence, and that applies also to the World Council of Churches.

The sanctions already instituted will last as long as governments who apply them believe that we should reform according to their demands. There are many countries who would rejoice if we cannot sell our agricultural products, or coal, because it opens up new markets to them. If we want to survive, we should not fear the length of time that we will have to contend with sanctions. Rather, we should carry on with our reform program inside this country and create a solid basis for us to act against this onslaught, an that in the end will break the sanctions. The sanctions will be broken by a united South Africa, and by a South Africa at peace with itself. That will break the sanctions. [end recording]

Restrictions on Winnie Mandela Lifted

MB071010 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0956 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 7, SAPA — All restriction orders on Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, had been lifted, but the media should still obtain legal advice before quoting her as this was "a complicated matter," a spokesman for the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, confirmed in Pretoria today. Mrs Mandela's name did not appear on either of the two lists of banned people published in terms of the Internal Security Act in the *Government Gazette* on Friday. "I can confirm all restriction orders on Mrs Mandela have been lifted," the spokesman, Captain Henry Beck, said in response to a request for clarification on the issue.

This included a restriction order compelling her to remain within the magisterial district of Brandfort, in the Orange Free State. Captain Beck said there was no specific directive prohibiting the media quoting Mrs Mandela in news reports. "But I would suggest legal advice be obtained before doing so as this is a complicated matter." Instances in which Mrs Mandela could not be quoted were, for example, if her utterances contravened state of emergency regulations, or furthered the aims of the ANC. Mrs Mandela, who has frequently openly defied her banning orders, has been quoted in recent months by the media and government spokesman. Extracts of her "matchboxes and necklaces" speech at Krugersdorp a few months ago were widely quoted in South Africa by both the media and the government.

Tutu Requests Meeting With P.W. Botha

MB060607 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The Anglican archbishop-elect of Cape Town, Bishop Desmond Tutu, has asked for a meeting with the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to discuss the state of emergency. Speaking at a news conference in Johannesburg, Bishop Tutu said senior church advisory had asked him to seek another meeting. Bishop Tutu met the state president for talks last month. Bishop Tutu also told newsmen that he would not meet the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, who is scheduled to visit South Africa soon.

President's Office Declines Comment

MB070910 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0844 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 7, SAPA — The state president's office has declined to comment on, or confirm, a request by achbishop-elect of the Anglican Church, Bishop Demond Tutu, for a meeting with Mr P.W. Botha. On Friday, the Right Reverend Duncan Buchanan, the dean of Johannesburg, said Bishop Tutu had asked for the meeting to discuss South Africa's three-week-old state of emergency, and that a reply was expected today. Bishop Tutu held talks in Cape Town with Mr Botha on June 13, a day after the state of emergency was declared. A spokesman for the state president's office said today it was not policy to confirm or comment on Mr Botha's schedule and meetings with people until after they had taken place.

Business Leaders Ask Release of Mandela

MB060915 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Eight of South Africa's top business leaders have pleaded for the release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the ANC. The leaders, whose companies have combined assets of more than 35 billion rand, have warned that South Africa is doomed unless the ANC becomes a participant in negotiations on the country's future. The eight are chairman of the Premier Group Tony Bloom, Shell South Africa's Executive Chairman John Wilson, Anglo Chairman Gavin Relly, Pick 'n' Pay boss Raymond Ackerman, BP [British Petroleum] Chairman Ian Sims, Southern Life Chief Executive Neil Chapman, JCI [Johannesburg Consolidated Investments] Gordon Waddell, and the managing director of Prudential Assurance, Dorian Wharton-Hood.

Buthelezi Says ANC in Exile Renouncing Mandela

MB041543 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1532 GMT 4 Jul 86

[SAPA PR Wire Service; issued by the chief minister's office]

[Text] Ulundi, Saturday — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi today accused the ANC mission in exile of starting to renounce Nelson Mandela because Mr Mandela had made it clear that he regarded him as an essential participant in the post-apartheid government of South Africa. As evidence, he cited a widely reported disclosure made by Mr Denis Healey after the former British cabinet minister's discussions in Lusaka with Mr Oliver Tambo and other ANC executives. Mr Healey had revealed that "ANC officials were concerned that Mandela did not appreciate how Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi had shifted his position in recent years and was now attempting to increase his power at the expense of other black activists."

Chief Buthelezi told the Inkatha annual general conference here that the external mission was upset because, while it regarded him as its number one enemy, the former ANC leader had been telling his visitors in jail that he would be dealing with Buthelezi after his release. He had been informing these visitors (who included members of the Eminent Persons Group) that he regarded the KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president as an essential participant in the government of the day after the eradication of apartheid.

The ANC mission in exile was smarting at this rebuke and was therefore now saying that Mr Mandela was ignorant, that he did not know what was going on and that it would have to tell him what to think and what to say. Chief Buthelezi said that the mission's Lusaka leaders were producing runaway violence in the black townships which neither they nor anyone else could control. These "small bands of political thugs" were presenting themselves under the ANC banner simply because it gave them the licence to maim and burn. In fact Lusaka had no control over them.

"I warn our brothers and sisters in exile that these very bands of death-mongers will yet bite the hand that is trying to feed them with the means of violence," he said. The external ANC was busy making South Africa not ungovernable for the National Party but for any government which would try to rule in justice and peace after apartheid had been vanquished.

ANC 'Military High Command' Leader Interviewed

MB042020 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 4 Jul 86

[From the "Focus on Africa "program]

[Text] South African police today launched a campaign to fight a spate of urban bombings. There have been about a dozen bomb blasts in South African cities such as Johannesburg, Durban, and Cape Town — the latest today in Pretoria — since the imposition of a state of emergency 2 weeks ago. There have been a number of deaths and injuries, among them a lot of civilians, particularly when a bus was bombed and the police are urging the public to be on the alert. The authorities clearly believe that the bombing campaign is the work of the banned African National Congress, ANC. Joe Slovo, number 3 in the ANC's military high command, is in London. Robin White asked him if the ANC was responsible for the bombs.

[Begin recording] [Slovo] The ANC announced that this is a year of Umkhonto we Sizwe and that it is going to step up its armed struggle in new directions and the increase in military activity is a measure of that resolution. I have no personal knowledge of each and every action which has taken place, nor whther the facts that are divulged under the restrictive form of reporting which is coming from South Africa are correct or not. All I can say is that as far as the ANC is concerned, as far as the armed wing of the ANC is concerned, the policies which have in the past been announced, that we are not directing our fire against innocent civilians, remains the policy. But I believe that there is no way forward in South Africa at the moment. I wish there were, but there is no way forward in South Africa without the armed factor in the struggle. To cancel a movement like ours, to abandon it, even if it does ocassionally have blemishes, is to counsel us to submit to surrender.

[White] These are blemishes, I take it, that you regret when civilians are killed. Is that right?
[Slovo] Absolutely, regret. I think it is tragic that a situation should arise where civilians on any side are killed. But it is almost a cliche to say that it is virtually unavoidable and this isn't unique to us alone. In fact, it operated in all situations where the armed factor is used including the last war, including action by the allies.

[White] You say it is impossible to avoid, but it is easy to avoid planting bombs on buses?
[Slovo] Yes, it is. We have expressed our thinking on that and I reckon you want me to repeat it, but our policy remains that we are not moving toward a new strategy in our military activities, we are not now embarking upon a campaign of terror against civilians.

[White] So, how much control is there by the leadership of the ANC over people who might act on the ANC's behalf inside South Africa?
[Slovo] [Words indistinct] control. It doesn't mean that every particular action undertaken by a unit inside the country is first authorized by a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the ANC.

[White] It is not authorized...
[Slovo, interrupting] No. No movement finding itself in this stage of struggle can operate by getting authority from the leading body of the political organs for every minor action that is taken and we don't even know in the case of these actions which have [word indistinct] publicized whether they are in fact our people. In some cases it could even be provocation by the other side in order to discredit the struggle, in order to discredit the ANC in some way.

[White] Can you eventually find out which actions have been carried out by the ANC? Do you eventually find that out?
[Slovo] Eventually, it is found out but it takes time especially in these conditions when communication is difficult, when the enemy is making it extremely awakward for information to come out, to go.

[White] Could I ask you then what do you do if you eventually find out that ANC cadres in South Africa have [word indistinct] and placed a bomb on a bus and killed innocent civilians? Are they disciplined or reprimanded in any way or thrown out of the ANC?
[Slovo] I think there have been occasions when the ANC has expressed itself to its members on how it views some of their activities. It is so in every movement and it happens in the ANC. I don't think we can have a formula about what happens to people who respond out of pure emotion in the case of the recent activity. If it was our people I wouldn't condemn them publicly, I would understand why it is that they did it and I would hope that the broad policy that we all support would be pursued without these kinds of diversions.

[White] But, can I ask what is a legitimate target? Is a legitimate target a police station? That is a legitimate target, is it?
[Slovo] I think a legitimate target is the enemy and enemy is basically in uniform, but not all in uniform. For example in the

rural areas, our judgment is that virtually the whole farrming community is part of the South African Defense Force.

[White] Is it the white farming community?
[Slovo] The white farming community. They are all organized into their commandos, each farm is a major communication post, they (?harmed) our people in the vicinity, they have maneuvers. They live with their wives, they live with their children, but I believe in that case it is not acting (against) civilian targets when one acts against those people who are part of the enemy's military machine in the countryside. [end recording]

Police Ask Citizen Alertness for Bombs

MB040716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0645 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 4, SAPA — Twelve blasts, including a landmine explosion, had rocked various areas in South Africa since the state of emergency was declared on June 12 — indicating the African National Congress had "scant regard" for human life, the South African police said today. "A number of innocent people of all race groups were killed or injured in these explosions," the SAP said in a statement to SAPA. "These acts clearly indicate that the ANC have scant regard for human life, be it black or white. The landmine, for example, occurred near Pretoria close to a black township. It is therefore of the utmost importance that all peace-loving and law abiding citizens combine forces to eradicate this danger to our lives."

There could be little doubt that the people responsible for "these acts of terror could also use backyards and spare rooms in urban residential areas as hiding places for their firearms and explosive devices," the statement added. "A special responsibility therefore rests with occupiers of homes and other dwellings, as well as with property owners, to ensure that their premises or property are not being used for these purposes." If anybody suspected his property was being used as a hideout, "such a suspicion must without delay be reported to the nearest police station." "Any such report will be treated wn the strictest confidence and if the information proves positive, the informant might qualify for a reward," the SAP said.

The police also appealed for people to be "more aware of their surroundings," saying this was essential. "Many bombs are placed in rubbish bins or left unattended in shopping bags or suitcases in arcades or on pavements. Pedestrians must therefore be on the lookout for suspicious looking objects in these...places." The police said it was also necessary that people should learn how to recognise various weapons of terror — such as limpet mines and handgrenades. Flat dwellers and office workers should also constantly be on the lookout for "suspicious looking articles" in their buildings. "When such an object is seen the observer must not touch or handle it, but rather immediately notify the nearest police station."

Police suggestions for greater security were listed in the statement:
— "The public must be on the lookout for persons placing parcels, in whatever form, in unusual places. Where a person is observed as acting strangely, special attention should be devoted to details usch as features, beard, scars, colour of hair, clothing and the like;
— "All concerns catering to the needs of the public are urged not to place dustbins and other containers in the immediate vicinity where the public usually gather in large numbers." The SAP said it was "common knowledge" there were many places where a limpet mine could be placed and "where little can be done to prevent it." "A terrorist, however, prefers choosing a place where he can leave his object without being conspicuous or arousing suspicion and dustbins have without exception proved ideally suited for this purpose."

Miners Stage Slowdown in Orange Free State

MB060945 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] About 3,000 miners yesterday staged a go-slow at a Orange Free State mine. Affected by the go-slow was the No 7 shaft of the Orange Free State Deduld Mine. An Anglo-American spokesman said production had fallen as result. It is believed that the go-slow was in protest against the detention of union leaders under the state of emergency. There has been no comment from the National Union of Mineworkers.

Up to 10,000 Miners Reported on Strike

MB071234 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] It is reported that up to 10,000 miners are on strike at mines around the country to protest the alleged detention of more than 200 trade union officials. The National Union of Mineworkers says the 10,000 have downed tools at six mines, but employers say only 4,500 miners are on strike at five mines. Leaders of the Congress of South African Trade Unions are said to have met to discuss what action to take about the reported detentions.

No Comment on Report 1,000 Workers Detained

MB041313 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The government Bureau for Information has refused to comment on reports that about 1,000 workers were detained im Tembisa near Pretoria yesterday. Most of them had been dismissed by the Tembisa municipality following a strike. According to reports they have gathered for a report-back meeting regarding a supreme court action instituted by five dismissed workers. South African Black Municipality Workers Union, of which many of them are said to be members, could not be reached for comment today. The Bureau for Information in Pretoria said it could not comment because of the emergency regulations.

Information Bureau Compiles Unrest Statistics

MB041656 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1654 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 4, SAPA — There have been about 308 unrest incidents the past week countrywide according to statistics supplied today by the Bureau for Information in Pretoria. Statistics supplied by the deputy director of the bureau's research unit, Mr D. Venter, made it possible to calculate how many unrest incidents occurred countrywide the past week. The statistics reveal that the past week there were approximately: 98 stone-throwing incidents, 49 arson incidents, 49 petrol bombings, 19 illegal gatherings, 20 murders, 19 robberies, and 55 other "minor" incidents. The past week, then, on average about 44 unrest incidents occurred in South Africa every day — or one incident every 33 minutes.

The director of the research unit, Dr Kobus Neethling, said the number of incidents had decreased the past week, compared to last week. "This trend seems to indicate that there has been much greater control and stability throughout the country the past two weeks than for instance the first week of the emergency situation or for that matter to what the situation had been in April and May of this year," he said. "Compared to April the number of incidents has decreased by 61 percent and compared to May the decrease has been 65 percent," Dr Neethling said. Mr Venter said that at 6am yesterday the official unrest death toll stood at 95. The number of deaths the past week increased to an average of 4.3 per day compared to two deaths per day last week. Some 7.3 unrest-related deaths occurred a day during the first week of the emergency, while in may the average was 5.1. During the past three weeks 67 percent of deaths was due to black-on-black violence.

Of unrest deaths the past week about: 17 percent were caused by the security forces (the SAP), 3 percent by municipal police, 7 percent by Development Board officials, 3 were due to self-inflicted injuries, 67 percent were caused by black-on-black violence, 3 percent killed were "members of the force." This week attacks on security forces increased to 4.4 per day from 3 per day last week. Stone-throwing incidents comprised 58 percent and petrol-bombings 16 percent. Damage increased by 50 percent compared to last week. No cost estimations were given.

Nine Die in Shootout Near Germiston 5 July

MB060531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1528 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 5, SAPA — Nine people died today — five of them East Rand Development Board officials and two of their assailants — who were killed in gunbattles in Katlehong and Vosloorus near Germiston. Twelve Development Board officials were wounded in the attacks. The Bureau for Information reported from Pretoria today that five East Rand Development Board officials were shot dead and nine were wounded by the occupants of a stolen Cressida car in two separate attacks in the early hours of this morning. AK-47 rifles were used.

The bureau reported that shortly after midnight six employees of the Development Board in Vosloorus were patrolling the township when a white Cressida, registration Hpx696t drove past them and stopped. Shots were then fired at the Development Board vehicle, hitting it and killing two of the occupants and wounding three. The car then sped off. Thirty-six spent AK-47 shells were found at the scene, the report said. An hour-and-a-half later, other Development Board officials patrolling the Katlehong area in two cars "stopped on the side of the road and climbed out of the vehicles." The white Cressida "appeared from the opposite direction driving on the wrong side of the road." When it reached the Development Board vehicles its headlights were switched on and the occupants fired shots at the (Development Board) vehicle, killing three local officials and wounding nine before driving off. The injured Development Board officials from both attacks were taken to Natalspruit Hospital in Thokoza.

At about 3am, the SAP were patrolling Katlehong when they spotted the Cressida in Letsoho Street and gave chase. "During the ensuing chase, shots were fired by both parties. The driver of the Cressida lost control and rolled the car," the bureau report said. Three of its occupants emerged from the car and tried to escape. Police shot dead two of them and the third escaped. None of their identities are known. Police found an empty AK-47 magazine in the car and later established the car had been stolen in Cleveland, Johannesburg.

Development Board officials killed in the first attack were: Mr Julani Mzumela, 19, Mr Daniel Mogeriti, 27. Names of those injured are: Mr Christian Kini, 27, Mr Fanios Gomani, 25, Mr Andries Mthijane, 22. Those killed in the second attack were: Mr Colly Kondlo, 25, Mr Deryk Malaleko, 23, Mr Alfred Ramabino, 42. Those injured in the second attack are: Mr Elias Mokona, 35, Mr Abel Molelaka, 25, Mr Richard Xhoza, age unknown, Mr Golden Malumlane, age unknown, name unknown November, age unknown, Mr Sydney Nhlehle, age unknown, Mr Michael Mofokeng, age unknown, Mr Eric Moholeka, age unknown, Mr Michael Mphila, age unknown.

A Soweto man, Mr Samuel Moloi, 19, of Mapetla, was killed "in security force action" the bureau report said. The incident happened at Mapetlatswana High School which was closed for the holidays. A man was found "necklaced" in KaNyamazane, Nelspruit.

Six whites and foru blacks are still being treated in hospital after yesterday's blast in Silverton, Pretoria, the Bureau for Information reported today. Most of them have undergone operations. Their respective conditions are described as follows:

1. Mr Pavier of Kameeldrif — condition serious but stable
2. Miss J.F. Le Roux of Sunnyside — condition satisfactory
3. Miss P.A. Marais of Sunnyside — condition satisfactory
4. Miss L. Bruyns of Sunnyside — condition satisfactory
5. Mis S.C. Roets of Silverton — condition satisfactory
6. Miss M. Erasmus of Arcadia — condition serious but stable
7. Miss Sophie Mapisa of Mamelodi — condition serious but stable
8. Mr Samuel Masanga — condition serious but stable
9. Miss Rebecca Mphofu of KwaNdebele — condition serious
10. Mr George Mamela of Atteridgeville — condition serious.

All the other patients were discharged after treatment.

Bureau for Information Issues 6 July Unrest Report

MB060910 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0901 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Pretoria, July 6, SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information's unrest situation report for the period 6am yesterday to 6am today:

"The number of incidents as well as damage caused by violent incidents of stone-throwing and robbery, were low. No deaths were reported.
"The condition of the victims of the Silverton explosion at 09h30 today is as follows:
"Miss Le Roux - will be discharged
"Mrs Roets - condition has improved
"Mr Pavier - much improved
"Miss Bruyns - good
"Miss Mopisa - transferred to Kalafong Hospital, satisfactory
"Miss Mphofu - better, transferred to Kalafong Hospital
"Mr Memela - improved
"Mr Masanga - better, transferred to Kalafong hospital
"The condition of Miss Erasmus is still serious.
"No further information on the Vosloorus/Katlehong incident available at this stage."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

ANC Violence Suggested

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 3 July says of the blast in central Johannesburg in which six women and two children were injured, that it is "another example of the utter callousness and unconcern for life and limb that the African National Congress displays." "It is indiscriminate, senseless, horrible terrorism," and "nobody can shrug it off as the act of an organisation fighting a just cause, seeking the liberation of a people, engaging in violence because it has no other way of making its protest known, or achieving its objectives, because it is banned." Even though the ANC remains banned and one cannot "expect it to turn to normal democratic processes to achieve its aims" past wrongs "cannot excuse the use of force to achieve political objectives." South Africa is being reformed. "Hated racial or apartheid measures as the Mixed Marriages Act, the pass laws and influx control have been expunged," so there is "no longer any reason for terrorism." The government will "release Nelson Mandela and unban the ANC if they renouce violence" and they will be free to "engage in the negotiation of a solution to the country's problems." "We have had enough of death, injury and destruction. Let there be peace."

Recent Bombings Considered

"The series of bomb attacks in Johannesburg and other towns in recent weeks has underwritten the fact that urban terrorism has become a depressing reality in South Africa today," says a page 22 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 3 July. Even though "the situation did not creep up unexpectedly," "we seem ill-prepared to deal with it." Routine appeals made to the public for vigilance are not enough. "The lead in creating security consciousness should come from the Government — not by way of vague and terrifying references to terrorist ogres but by cool insistence on presenting the facts to the public through the media, and enlisting support for well-defined preventive measures," such as tightening security in public places, "blast-proof curtaining for windows, particularly at street level," more police on the beat and transparent rubbish bins in public places. "A sensible campaign would deter would-be bombers and increase public confidence, not harm it. Of course it may be inconvenient, but public inconvenience is better by far than its possible alternative: death and injury."

Injustice to Detainees

Referring to the regulations now applied against detainees, a second editorial on the same page says: "Every thinking South African has reason to feel distinctly uneasy, not just about 'the situation,' but about some of the methods used to control it." The measures include giving prison officers "the right to charge, try and sentence detainees to a whipping or to solitary confinement or to a spare diet without allowing them access to a lawyer or the right to appeal," "for an offence such as singing, whistling or making unnecessary noise." "Detainees (who may be minors) are held in prison at the whim of the minister or police. That's bad enough. What then is the motivation behind the detention regulations? What is it protecting us from? Injustice?"

Labor Relations in Turmoil

Shirley Raine writes on page 23 of *The Star* that never before have relationships between South African employers and organized labor "been as confused as they are today." "At the centre of the confusion is the state of emergency which has resulted in a series of events which have thrown labour relations into turmoil." Apart from the detention of trade union leaders and members, "hundreds of trade unionists have gone into hiding for fear of detention. Those not in hiding are seldom able to follow their usual work routines. Police have continued to raid union premises and to seek central figures in the labour movement." Even though trade union offices have been disrupted by the emergency they have operated, "albeit with difficulty." However, "communication lines between workers and their unions on the one hand and employers on the other have been strained." Some major employers, "while expressing concern privately, have remained silent — much to the consternation of union leaders who believe it is the employer's duty to put pressure on the Government." Other employers have welcomed the state of emergency and "hold the view that the Government is correct in trying to stamp out the quasi-political role of the emergent labour movement." Despite meetings between various employers and government officials the government has "stuck to its guns in keeping some trade unionists behind bars, claiming they are being detained 'for activities not related to ordinary labour matters.' "

Momentum for Sanctions

A page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 3 July says the sanctions campaign has gathered momentum "for want of better ideas among foreigners for dealing with South Africa's intransigent government." However, very little attention has been paid to the consequences, costs or chances of success of a sanctions campaign. It is estimated that because gold, platinum and diamonds are relatively "immune to boycott," and there is the possibility of exporting to neighboring states with "possibly a good deal of sanctions-busting trade with countries farther afield," this would allow for exports to cover "the cost of essential imports almost indefinitely." Even though "life would become less pleasant, the available goods less varied and more expensive" there is "nothing immediately life-threatening about sanctions." "The damage would be long-term. Growth would stop, trade shrink, employment vanish; but the capacity of government and its supporting constituencies to deflect the harm from whites to blacks is almost unlimited," probably making the "impoverishment of black people" the worst consequence of sanctions. "The most obvious effect of sanctions will be to take South Africa out of the ranks of the almost-First World countries and shove it firmly back into the Third World." Sanctions would not "serve the cause of liberty or humanity."

Business Confidence Linked to Change

On the same page an economics reporter examines the issue of business confidence which has "become a sort of catch-all metaphor for all SA's economic woes." The consensus of business executives interviewed was that "confidence has become essentially an emotional issue, determined now far more by political events than by the dollar exchange rate." The views of the executives interviewed lead to conclusions that: "government cannot create business confidence simply by telling business to be confident"; the "confidence problem is at heart a political problem"; and the "restoration of business confidence requires political solutions." "Normally, an executive will look to the rand, to inflation and to interest rates as indicators of whether he should feel good about doing business in SA. Today, that executive is tossing the numbers out the window, and waiting for political change."

Nation 'Capital-Hungry'

"One of the inherent problems in our economy is that we are capital-hungry," says Davigox Igeck, managing director for currency risk management, on page 4 of *Business Day*. "We are in constant need of capital and will be so for the foreseeable future if we are to develop our land and its peoples to the kind of potential predicted by our resource base." It is naive of foreign politicians and businessmen to expect that by "crippling the economy — and, hopefully, thereby government — some kind of magic will take place whereby SA will be transformed into the phoenix of old rising majestically from the ashes of our burned-out land." Businessmen are hesitant to invest in a country which according to the media is "battling for survival." There is also the problem of the fluctuating exchange rate. The SA businessman's "incentive to expand local production capabilities and thus create more depth in the employment market is also diminished." Even though "one of the biggest sources of foreign captial has been offshore borrowing by SA businessmen," now the "moves in the exchange rate are too unstable and dangerous to once again encourage businessmen to borrow abroad." The "capital-hungry nation has gone on a diet. Like an anorexic we will waste away as we use up our own fat. Capital requirements will have to be met from internal sources, butthat means faster growth in government spending, money supply and, ultimately, inflation." The problem lies in "external and internal political pressures" with the economic field suffering the consequences thereof. Although the problems cannot be solved all at once, a climate can be created "whereby those who are prepared to discount the problems are willing to privide capital to this country." This can be done by "reducing the 'bottom line' influence of a volatile exchange rate." Even though "we can do little to encourage those in the disinvestment camp," those who are "willing to discount the risk in favour of the excellent returns offered by SA will be much more amenable if we could offer some semblance of order in our foreign exchange market."

Howe Mission Evaluted

The page 6 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 2 July says "the government hopes to be able to inform the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, of the reality that apartheid is either going or has gone." In Foreign Minister Pik Botha's view the "abolition of the pass laws and the opening of hotel and sports facilties should show his British counterpart that apartheid is already moribund." However, it is suggested that Botha "might like to take his colleague to some of the centres which have been set up in Cape Town's white areas for refugees from Crossroads and KTC," explain why the "government has deemed it necessary to issue eviction orders and to threaten to prosecute those who have given shelter to suffering compatriots," and justify "the use for this purposed of a law repealed by the very abolition of Influx Control Bill." Botha should not be surprised if Howe were to conclude that "apartheid was still alive and well." "Mr Botha wants to inform Sir Geoffrey about the actual situation in South Africa. Crossroads in its many ramifications is as good a place to start as any."

Howe Visit Play for Time

Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 2 July says in a page 10 editorial that "there is agreement that Sir Geoffrey Howe's South African visit will not achieve much other than to give his government time in its fight to stave off sanctions against South Africa." Perhaps his visit can serve some purpose if Sir Geoffrey clarifies a few points the first being that South Africa must "dismantle apartheid." The South African Government is already busy with that and has made some progress. Yet the demand gets heavier and is accompanied by threats. Perhaps, Sir Geoffrey can explain what is expected from South Africa. Another matter not clear to this country is the demand that the government talk to black leaders. The EEC countries apparently are not aware of the many invitations issued by the state president to black leaders to sit around the negotiating table. Equally they are unaware of the many rejections by black leaders of these invitations. Finally, "with which black leaders do the EEC and others want the South Africans to negotiate with — with all or just with the ANC?"

Abolition of Passbooks

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 3 July says in a page 10 editorial that "with the demise of the passbook, South Africa has finally done away with one of the pillars of blatant discrimination." This represents a correction of a wrong and shows that not just lip service is being given to reform. This does not mean that the transition to the new system will be without problems. On the contrary, evildoers will try to disrupt this transitional period. Furthermore, the unpleasant memories of the past cannot be forgotten overnight by law-abiding citizens. "It is with this in mind that the government has embarked upon a campaign to market the new uniform identity system."

Buthelezi's Steady Course

Commenting on black-on-black violence in an editorial on page 6, Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 4 July says: "To talk of civil war may be an exaggeration at this point, but that opposing peoples, organisations and factions are paying off old scores and engaging in a bitter power struggle cannot be gainsaid. And matters can only become worse if this violence continues, as is happening despite the emergency, even though the unrest has to a large extent been quelled." In the midst of this "turbulence," Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi has called for restraint, has opposed sanctions, and has emphasized the need for peaceful change. Chief Buthelezi "has refused to deviate from his principles; he has kept a steady course that is to be admired. As the political leader of the powerful Zulu nation, he should be a key figure in the negotiation of the country's future — and the sooner he can throw his weight behind reform the better it will be for everyone. Thus, we believe the time has arrived for Chief Buthelezi and the Government to reach some accommodation with each other, since the situation is too serious to allow forces of peaceful change to be at loggerheads with each other."

Call for Sisulu's Release

"Now that the government has publicly acknowledged that *New Nation* editor Zwelakhe Sisulu has been detained under the emergency regulations, it must also take active steps to release him," Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 6 July [date as published] says in an editorial on page 2. The *New Nation* is owned by the South African Catholic Bishops Conference and was "set up with the hope of many church groups around the world. This action against him is now threatening to bring about a Church versus State situation and could provoke an international confrontation which the government could not afford given its pathetic global image. Sisulu must be released forthwith."

Stabilizing Force of Unions

"Unions, and indeed the entire structure of industrial relations created by the Wiehahn reforms, have operated as a stabilising force in a turbulent society. The unions have become the most effective forum in SA for the resolution of disputes between the races, both internally between workers and management and externally in conflicts with management," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 4 July says in an editorial on page 6. Unions pursue political ends because "political concerns the division of the spoils, and unions exist to get a fair share for their workers." Therefore, "the declaration of a dispute by the National Union of Mineworkers must be viewed as part of normal industrial relations in a capitalist system. The union is behaving not only lawfully but constructively and in a manner designed to preserve capitalism. The fears of the union that its two leading members, Cyril Ramaphosa and James Motlatsi, might be detained on their return from Britain should also be seen in this light." "So long as union leaders are engaged in the lawful pursuit of the interests of their members — even if those interests are political — they should be immune to measures designed to deal with threats to security. Failure to preserve that line might, in present conditions, have grave and unpredictable consequences on the mining industry and the national economy."

Wake-Up Call to Bishop Tutu

"Bishop Desmond Tutu has in forthright terms condemned the violence that has begun to consume SA. In doing so he has, like the Rev Beyers Naude a few days earlier, seemed to adopt a welcome new tone," *Business Day* says in another editorial on page 6. "It may be that Bishop Tutu has at last looked into the abyss and seen, perhaps the image of a two-week-old bomb victim as much as in the shooting of a township child, the horror that awaits this country if men in positions of moral leadership are not able to stem the drift into violence." It may be possible to hope Bishop Tutu "will soon see that sanctions, 'ungovernability,' terrorism, and such convulsive episodes as the burning of Crossroads all come in one package. Either we build or we burn."

Employment Greatly Reduced

Industrial Editor David Furlonger writes on the same page that the latest *Manufacturing Survey* by Stellenbosch University's Bureau for Economic Research (BER) shows that "manufacturing activity is at such a low ebb that, in some industries, not a single company is working at full production." "Nearly half the country's manufacturing sectors are operating at lower production volume levels than they were 10 years ago." Of 19 sectors examined, 17 employed fewer workers than at the same time last year. "While production capacity utilisation hovers between 75 percent and 91 percent in the various industries, figures take no account of the fact that they are based on reduced capacity expectation." Even apparently healthy industries are operating at "low production levels and with hugely reduced workforces."

Debt Repayment

"The hint by Dr Dennis Worrall that South Africa might refuse to pay its international debts should severe sanctions be imposed is an ominous development," Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 3 July says in an editorial on page 6. It can be argued that the country has the right to take retaliatory action against countries "determined to bring this economy to its knees." "But this would be a final admission that South Africa had abandoned hope of readmission into the world community." The country's word is already questioned abroad and "to raise further doubts about South Africa's creditworthiness at a time when a badly-sagging economy desperately needs an injection of confidence is unhelpful, over both the immediate and longer term." The positive side of the Worrall interview was that he " 'sensed' " that it was in the country's interest to release Nelson Mandela, although the problem was that it was hard to justify to the white community. Perhaps Geoffrey Howe will be more successful in securing this than the Eminent Persons Group. Having been heavily criticized for sticking out her neck for South Africa, Mrs Margaret Thatcher "now has a right to call up an important IOU or two from President P.W. Botha. It could be a test case on how we treat friends who have stood by us the longest."

U.S., ANC Relations

Simon Barber writes on the same page that while momentum for sanctions against South Africa is gaining on Capital Hill, the "American body politic is still tormented about how to aproach the African National Congress." U.S. politicians cannot accept that the ANC tolerates communists for the same reason the U.S. tolerated Stalin in World War II, and liberal democrats worry about an ANC government being hijacked by totalitarians. The U.S. has stepped up its contacts with the ANC with some trepidation. Washington hopes that its "informal acceptance" of the organization might strengthen the moderates within it. Fears of the ANC not only exist in the White House but also among liberal Democrats, who recently supported a conservative amendment to deny assistance to the ANC so long as its controlling body includes members of the South African Communist Party, which sent a message to the ANC about U.S. fears. Whether the ANC can allay these fears depends on its reactions to U.S. " 'testing.' "

Emergency and Labor Relations

"The State of Emergency," Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 4 July says in an editorial on page 10 "was declared in order to bring peace to the country, but in one area at least it is creating turmoil. That area is labour relations. The detention of hundreds of trade union leaders has led to a wave of protest strikes and has disrupted employer-worker relationships carefully nurtured for years." Whether the government's argument that the leaders are being held for other reasons is valid or not is impossible to say. However, in absence of other black political institutions, unions have come to play a quasipolitical role and employers have accepted that. "Now the heavy hand of the State has jeopardised one of South Africa's areas of genuine reform. In the present economic and political climate, this extra instability is the last thing the country needs."

Regretting Press Censorship

In his "My View" column on the same page, Frederick van Zyl Slabbert regrets the censorship of the press which has been imposed in the state of emergency and the way it hinders people in having varying views which help them make up their mind about things. He wonders how people in the townships make up their minds and who presents the pros and cons of various issues to them, churches, schools civic associations, pupils or whom? "One thing is quite certain from my own experience: people in townships and villages are making up their minds on a whole range of issues in a far more uniform way than ever before. It is quite amusing how common attitudes have developed on a number of key issues." If people wonder what township attitudes are, he recommends visiting them. "If one is really intersted in finding out what is going on in your country, I would recommend this very much. Sometimes it is not so easy, but it is always worth it."

Short Term Reaction to Explosions

Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 3 July says in an editorial on page 14 that "perhaps our impression is wrong but it seems the series of bomb explosions has caused a sort of shortterm reaction." The question is what will the reaction be if terrorism on soft targets increases. Therein lies the crux of the matter. The classical Marxist method is used here. The more damage is caused the easier it will be to undermine the morale of a community as a whole. "If we want to ensure our future we must make sacrifices for it by being alert and by creating a system that will be acceptable to all."

Formula for Capitalism

In a second editorial on page 14 *Die Transvaler* says "one of the biggest challenges to South Africa's economy is to find a formula that would make First World interests reconcilable with Third World demands." The solution lies clearly in the development of a capitalist system that will fulfill the expectations of a multiracial society. Problems in this regard have been identified by the President's Council and recommendations have led to a new official approach to the development of small business undertakings. "This new approach is a practical step to promote economic activity. Surely, it is one of the most effective ways of fighting the communist ideology."

Western Demands

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 4 July says in a page 8 editorial that "Senator Gary Hart has urged President Reagan to personally demand from President Botha that he begins immediately with negotiations on a majority government." This confirms what one has suspected for a long time — that when Western governments demands that apartheid be dismantled, they really mean that the present government should be replaced by a black one. The EEC has given South Africa 3 months to end apartheid, and Sir Geoffrey Howe is coming especially to convey this message. Western governments should spell out their demands. Do they want South Africa to carry on with reform or do they want a black majority government based on the Zimbabwean model? "Hypocritical talk is just not good enough."

ZAMBIA

Botswana President Masire Arrives on Visit

MB041014 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Botswana President Quett Masire arrived in Lusaka this afternoon for a 2-day official visit to Zambia, during which he will open the international trade fair in Ndola. Dr Masire, who is accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Gaositwe Chiepe and other top Botswana leaders, was met at Lusaka International Airport by President Kaunda, Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane, Secretary of State for Defense and Security Alex Shapi, and other senior party and government officials. On arrival, Dr Masire was treated to a red carpet reception and inspected a guard of honor mounted by the second battalion of the Zambia regiment while a 21-gun salute boomed.

State Dinner Remarks Reported

MB041015 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] President Kaunda has said it is disheartening that countries in a position to pressure racist South Africa to change her policies have not been able to accept their responsibility toward this noble goal. The president said at State House at a state dinner for President Quett Masire of Botswana that the issue was more disturbing because Western countries that are dragging their feet on South Africa have been quick to act when it is in the interest of the whites being threatened. Dr Kaunda noted that blacks in South Africa and in neighboring countries have continued to die, yet the West is not prepared to act but acted in the case of Poland through the same sanctions they now refuse to apply on South Africa.

The Botswana president, who is in the country to open the Zambia International Trade Fair in Ndola told his host that there was no doubt that the problams brought about by South Africa have helped to make more than ever before countries in the region. He cited the creation of the Preferential Trade Area, the SADCC and other bodies as clear testimony of close links that now exist in the region.

Kaunda Comments on RSA in Message to Reagan

MB041238 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Excerpt] President Kaunda has said the greatness of the United States as a leading democracy should be seen in its ability to changes with the time in favor of the will of the oppressed of South Africa and Namibia. The president said in a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on their 210th independence anniversary today that the 4th of July is of particular importance as it reminds the world of the desire for freedom and independence by the oppressed peoples of southern Africa. Dr Kaunda said Zambians need not remind the Americans of the evils of apartheid, pointing out that it is the very opposite of democracy that the United States cherishes and defends.

Foreign Minister: U.S. Independence 'Inspiration'

MB041957 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Luke Mwananshiku today said America's independence is a great inspiration to the people of Namibia and South Africa. Speaking at a ceremony to mark the 210th anniversary of American independence, Mr Mwananshiku said America's achievement of independence is a great event because it gives hope to those still fighting for their freedom in southern Africa. Hesaid America's independence is of a great importance in southern Africa because there are still people in Namibia and South Africa who are not free.

Prime Minister Comments on Economy, RSA

MB031846 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane has said that the unstable economy and political crisis in southern African region will not force Zambia to be used as a puppet by the West or the East. The prime minister made this assurance when the Guyana high commissioner to Zambia, (Oscar Clark), called on him. Mr Musokotwane said although Zambia is facing serious economic problems brought about by South Africa's destabilization of the region, she cannot give up her independence for wealth. On the political front the prime minister said the situation in South Africa was becoming more explosive and there was no way to turn back the clock. Earlier Mr (Clark) expressed his government's concern over the situation in southern Africa.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Criticizes U.S., UK on RSA Sanctions

MB041707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1631 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Harare, July 4, SAPA — Washington and London have shown little concern over apartheid and have not suggested military action as an alternative to sanctions, a Zimbabwe cabinet minister said here today, ZIANA reported today. The minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende, in a speech read on his behalf by Mr David Karimanzira, the minister of youth, sport and culture, said: "Alas, we have had little concern shown in Washington and London over the terrorism of apartheid, neither has there been any suggestion that military action should be taken to combat that international menace," he said.

At a reception marking the 210th anniversary of American independence where former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was present, the minister made a scathing attack on the British and American Governments for refusing to impose sanctions in order to protect their investments, while at the same time they imposed sanctions on countries where their investments were minimal. "...The British imposed sanctions against Argentina in the Malvinas/Falklands conflict. Similary the Americans imposed sanctions against Poland over an issue that was a totally internal Polish affair, they have also acted harshly against Nicaragua over yet another totally domestic affair," he said. He also said that the Americans had slapped a grain embargo on the Soviet Union over the invasion of Afghanistan, as well as carried out acts of aggression against Libya. "Having taken such measures in the past, and having strongly and publicly defended those same measures as effective and successful, we must wonder why in the case of South Africa such measures are suddenly labelled ineffective, unworkable and most likely to harm the very people they are meant to help," the minister said.

Jimmy Carter Walks Out on Mangwende Remarks

MB041705 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] The former United States president, Mr Jimmy Carter, has paid a courtesy call on the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe. Mr Carter, accompanied by his wife and several officers of the Carter development foundation, arrived in Harare last night from Ghana. While in Ghana, Mr Carter is reported to have expressed support for sanctions against racist South Africa and criticized the European Community for failure to impose an economic boycott against the [word indistinct]. He told newsmen that the European Community's decision to wait for another 3 months before instituting mandatory sanctions was regrettable. During his stay in Ghana, Mr Carter launched the Food for Peace Program.

Meanwhile, this afternoon Mr Carter walked out of a reception in Harare to mark the anniversary of American independence. He was joined by the American charge d'affaires to Zimbabwe, Mr Edward Lanpher and the British high commissioner, Mr [name indistinct]. The three walked out of the reception when the minister of youth sport and culture, Comrade David Karimanzira, criticized the United States and Britain for refusing to impose economic sanctions against South Africa. The minister condemned the American and British double standards of criticizing injustice in one country while condoning it in others where they have vested interests.

Mangwende Notes 'Right' to Military Aid

MB041716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1638 GMT 4 July 86

[Text] Harare, July 4, SAPA — Zimbabwe and other Frontline States have the right, if necessary to call in friendly nations to repel South African aggression the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Witness Mangwende said here today, ZIANA reports. He told the National Forum meeting that such a decision would be in compliance with the United Nations Charter which says that "any nation has the right to seek international assistance to repel foreign aggression." The minister's remarks follow the May 19 South African attacks on Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe in which two people died.

He added that "the security of small nations needs to be safeguarded by the collective will and effort of the entire world community." Angola invited the Cubans to bolster its military capacity in the face of South African aggression and "by the same token, let me declare here and now that Zimbabwe and other Frontline States have the right to call in friendly nations to repel South African aggression should the need arise," he said.

The minister said that an important task of the Nonaligned Movement was to democratise the decision-making processes of the world. He said the movement, which is made up of the Third World, were the "recipients" and not the "participants" in international rule making. Together, the people in the movement constituted the majority of the world's population, and possessed the largest part of certain important raw materials, yet remained the poorest. It was for this reason the movement sought to restructure the international economic order to reverse the current "unequal" trade relationships between the developed north and the developing south, he said. Nonaligned countries wanted to see "an end to protectionism, fairer interest rates on loans, a negotiable settlement to the debt burden which has crippled their economies," the minister said.